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TODAY: STAGE

Opponents Of Abortion Force Shift By Hoechst

Facing U.S. Boycott, Drugmaker Returns Pill Rights to Creator

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Concerned that its image might be tarnished by high-profile pressure from American anti-abortion groups, the German pharmaceutical company that makes the RU-486 abortion pill said Tuesday it was transferring its patent rights to a creator of the drug.

Hoechst of Germany said that its wholly owned French subsidiary, Roussel Uclaf, had signed an agreement to transfer rights to the drug without remuneration to a new French company, Exelgyn, being formed by Edouard Sakiz, 71, who was chief executive of Roussel Uclaf until 1993.

Roussel Uclaf said it could find no buyer for the drug, which is now legally available in France, Sweden and Britain.

U.S. anti-abortion groups reacted to the decision by noting that Hoechst's retreat would not necessarily limit availability of the drug.

Hoechst, the fourth-largest drug manufacturer in the world, said there would be no interruption in availability of the drug in the three countries where it is marketed. Plans by a nonprofit group, the Population Council, to produce it in the United States by late this year were unaffected by the announcement Tuesday.

Hoechst acknowledged that the heat of the debate over RU-486 in the United States was an important factor in its decision. The decision came a week after anti-abortion groups in the United States started a major campaign against a new antihistamine, Allegra, or fexofenadine, which Hoechst is counting on for substantial profits.

"We didn't want to take the risk of boycotts, especially in the U.S.," said Catherine Eurvrard, a company spokeswoman in Paris. She called the drug a "hot potato" and added, "This product can no longer be part of the strategy of an international company."

The move will have greater symbolic than economic impact on the company. Profits from the drug's sales were $3.44 million last year, an almost negligible portion of the company's $7.5 billion in revenue. But Hoechst spent millions of dollars to develop the drug.

Dr. Sakiz told the French newspaper Le Monde: "It's clear that in accepting, I'm going to become an easy target. It's true there's a risk that some people might consider me Satan. But I also believe we cannot abandon such an important molecular product that has so much promise."

Proponents have vaunted RU-486 as a way to make abortion more readily available to women, particularly those who live far from clinics and might otherwise be unable to obtain it. Its

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Rula Halawani/Reuters

Palestinians, including a policeman, center right, rushing to help a youth who was shot in the head with a rubber bullet during clashes in Hebron on Tuesday. Witnesses said the youth later succumbed to his wounds.

3 Arabs Are Killed In Hebron Unrest

Politics Bind Netanyahu And Clinton

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton said Tuesday that there was "a fairly decent chance" of renewing peace negotiations in the Middle East. But his words hardly sounded ringing in the midst of the latest crisis and, together with a U.S. decision not to reach for any dramatic, interventionist stroke, they reflect a wariness about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel.

If foreign policy is domestic politics by other means, both Mr. Clinton and Mr. Netanyahu played careful hands in their meeting Monday, choosing to avoid confrontation in public and postpone any important decisions. Mr. Clinton is well aware that the crisis of confidence in the Middle East is both deep and serious, and that a long breakdown in negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians is likely to lead to more violence, which will only reflect badly on him and his administration.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Mr. Clinton and his foreign policy team are attracted in principle by Mr. Netanyahu's idea of accelerated talks over the next six months to try to resolve the "final status" issues of Jerusalem, the nature of the Palestinian Authority and its boundaries.

But the Americans say they need to be convinced — in deeds, and not just words — that Mr. Netanyahu is sincere about his intentions before Mr. Clinton can commit himself and American credibility to such a bold and risky stroke.

Just as important, senior U.S. officials say, the Palestinians need to be convinced that they will not lose anything by trying and that Mr. Netanyahu is not simply working to destroy the more-gradual Oslo peace process while trying to wriggle out of serious political difficulties at home.

But Mr. Clinton is also aware that American presidents who care about their opinion polls do not pick fights

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Escalation In Violence Is Forecast

By Joel Greenberg
New York Times Service

HEBRON, Israeli-Occupied West Bank — A Jewish settler shot and killed an Arab who he said attacked him and a companion Tuesday, igniting street battles between rock-throwing youths and Israeli soldiers in which two more Palestinians died and about 100 were wounded.

It was one of the deadliest days in three weeks of violence in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Israel that were set off by construction work on a Jewish neighborhood in historically Arab East Jerusalem.

The worsening unrest developed as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu returned from a trip to Washington that had raised hopes of reviving faltering peace efforts and it underscored the perils of further political stalemate between Israel and the Palestinians.

With no public evidence of tangible progress emerging from Mr. Netanyahu's meeting Monday with President Bill Clinton, there was heightened concern among both Israelis and Palestinians that the bloodshed Tuesday could trigger even deadlier conflict.

"This will cause an escalation in the situation," warned Colonel Jibril Rajoub, the head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service in the West Bank, who arrived in Hebron after the settler shooting.

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, was reported to be considering sending his deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, to Washington to discuss the results of Mr. Netanyahu's talks with Mr. Clinton, but there seemed to be little goodwill on the Palestinian side after the latest violence.

"This is an immediate result of the policies of Mr. Netanyahu," said Marwan Kanafani, an aide to Mr. Arafat. "I hope he will be happy seeing Palestinian blood on his hands."

Mr. Rajoub added: "What happened today is a crime that happened with Israeli encouragement and clear American cover." Faisal Husseini, the most

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Prodi Loses Support for Albania Force

Berlusconi Throws Italian Coalition Into Crisis by Withholding Vote

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

ROME — The center-left government of Prime Minister Romano Prodi was thrown into crisis Tuesday as it scrambled to avert a humiliating parliamentary defeat of its plan to lead a 6,000-soldier multinational force into Albania.

Already embarrassed by the noisy defection of its allies in Italy's hard-left Communist party, Mr. Prodi's coalition, known as the Olive Tree, was further shaken by an announcement by Silvio Berlusconi, leader of the center-right opposition, that it too would vote against a government motion authorizing deployment of the Italian-led security force in Albania.

The Senate, where the Olive Tree coalition commands a majority, approved the deployment Tuesday. But that still left Mr. Prodi with the prospect of a crumbling majority in the Chamber of Deputies, which is to cast a vote Wednesday that could be critical for both the Albanian mission and his own political future.

The government is seeking authorization for a deployment for as long as six months of 2,500 Italian soldiers, the largest contingent of a force drawn from eight European nations that is due to go into Albania this month.

Parliamentarians also were discussing another motion authorizing the Albanian mission, this one sponsored by Mr. Berlusconi's faction, which some said could become a compromise face-saving measure for the government. But while it might protect Italy's national dignity, it would underscore Mr. Prodi's growing political weakness, and surely open the way to a test of his strength in Parliament later.

"Given that the majority doesn't exist any more, they would easily swing their votes behind our motion,

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Unruly Albania Awaits Peace Force

By Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service

VLORE, Albania — The tumultuous popular revolt here, fed by the rage of thousands of investors bilked out of their savings, has settled into an uneasy stalemate that leaves this little corner of the Balkans almost lawless.

The deadlock revolves around citizens resentful of the hollow investment schemes, autocratic rulers unwilling to cede power, opposition parties too disorganized to mount a credible challenge to the government, armed factions that answer to no one and criminals who took advantage of the chaos to get guns and expand their smuggling operations.

As a result, roads and towns throughout the country are in the hands of an unknown number of militias, ad hoc police forces and gangs. Rifles and pistols, looted by the thousands from military stores as the crisis erupted last month, have ended up in the hands of almost everybody.

This state of near anarchy provides a tense backdrop for the arrival, scheduled next week, of an international peace force. The UN-approved deployment, requested by Albania and led by Italy, is supposed to calm the country enough to ease deliveries of flour and medicine.

The United States is taking no part in the force despite U.S. concern that the chaos, and weaponry, might spread to other parts of the Balkans.

For Italy, the quandary is how to restore peace to Albania so its refugees do not flood Italian shores. The government of Prime Minister Romano Prodi is struggling to obtain a parliamentary majority for Italy's first role as head of a multinational intervention force.

Vlore, a port on the Adriatic Sea 112 kilometers (70 miles) southwest of Tirana, the capital, has been the most unruly and militant of the many towns in revolt. A tour of the town gave an idea of what the peacekeepers are up against and of the range of Albania's torment.

At one end of the seafront drive, a funeral procession wound onto the narrow roadway. Women wailed and men marched stoically, carrying aloft the body of a man shot dead the night before by a drunken security guard. Just down the road toward town, a fender-bender appeared to be on the verge of becoming a shootout as one driver waved a pistol and kicked another driver to the ground.

At the abandoned docks, a weeping widow tossed a bouquet of flowers into the sea as she mourned her husband. He drowned last month when an Italian naval vessel capsized a small Albanian ship full of refugees fleeing the anarchy. Offshore, burly men raced on pontoon rafts toward an old

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Dollar Soars to 4-Year High Against Yen

The Dollar		
New York	Tuesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.7155	1.7125
Pound	1.626	1.6343
Yen	126.335	125.58
FF	5.7625	5.761

The Dow		
	Tuesday close	previous close
+53.25	6609.16	6555.91

S&P 500		
change	Tuesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
+3.93	766.07	762.14

The dollar hovered close to a four-and-a-half year high against the yen Tuesday, supported by signs that officials from the United States and Japan would not step in to stop the rally.

Tsutomu Makino, vice minister at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, said a weak yen would do more good than harm to the Japanese economy, which is struggling to emerge from a five-year slump.

On the U.S. side, Robert Rubin, the Treasury secretary, has said little about the dollar's sharp gains in the course of this week. Page 12.

AGENDA

Worldwide Rules Set for Banking

Central banks and regulators from around the world, including China and Russia, agreed for the first time Tuesday on a comprehensive set of rules to police banking operations worldwide.

The set of 25 core principles, announced by the Bank for International Settlements, based in Switzerland, is intended to forestall a variety of financial shocks. Page 11.

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Zaire Rebels Aim for Kinshasa

Space Shuttle Lands After Failed Mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — The space shuttle Columbia and a disappointed crew returned to Earth on Tuesday, ending a science mission that had been cut from 16 days to four because of a dangerously defective generator. The commander, James Halsell Jr., had to land the shuttle with one-third less power than usual because of the faulty generator.

Grain Deal for Starving North Korea

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

North Korea acknowledged Tuesday for the first time that children had died of malnutrition in the country, a day after a U.S. food conglomerate said it had sealed a breakthrough grain deal with the North.

U.S. officials said it was the first direct sale of U.S.-grown wheat to North Korea since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, when Washington imposed a ban on trade with Pyongyang.

The developments came on the heels of a U.S. congressman's report that people in the North Korean countryside were "rapidly descending into the hell of a severe famine."

North Korean Health Ministry officials said that nearly one child in seven was suffering as a consequence of dire food shortages and that 134 children had died of malnutrition across the country, according to a Unicef spokesman, Hans Olsen. There was no indication how recently the children had died.

The Health Ministry officials also said that 15.3 percent of North Korean children were suffering directly from malnutrition, according to Mr. Olsen, who added that it was "the first time such statistics have been shared with the international community."

The figures were released a day after the United Nations appealed for $126 million to help North Korea, where two years of floods have set off severe food shortages.

In a barter deal, the U.S. grains giant Cargill Inc. announced Monday that it had reached a hard-fought agreement with Pyongyang to sell North Korea an undisclosed amount of U.S. wheat.

The company did not disclose the

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The IHT on-line http://www.iht.com

Newsstand Prices			
Andorra	10.00 FF	Morocco	16 Dh
Antilles	12.50 FF	Qatar	10.00 Riels
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Réunion	12.50 FF
Egypt	E£ 5.50	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
France	10.00 FF	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Gabon	1100 CFA	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20
Lebanon	L.L. 3,000		

In Indonesia, Spark of Intolerance Lights Fires of Ethnic Rioting

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

RENGASDENGKLOK, Indonesia — It was just before 3 A.M., and the Muslim feast-day drumming had been going on for almost an hour. Liu Kim Cuang, the Chinese merchant who lived next door, was furious, the 17-year-old drummer recalls.

"You stupid dog! You crazy pig!" he shouted at the drummer, Hendra Kurnia. "You don't respect me."

Mr. Kurnia shouted back. Somebody threw a stone, and more stones followed. People began to gather in the small alley behind the marketplace in this town 50 kilometers (30 miles) east of Jakarta.

As the sky grew light, residents here recalled recently, the crowd swelled with young men who hurried in from the surrounding fields and villages. Soon a mob was surging through the narrow streets with clubs and stones.

By the end of the day, two Buddhist temples and a swath of Chinese-owned homes and shops had been vandalized, and four Christian churches and a Christian elementary school had been smashed or gutted by fire.

The convulsion of violence on Jan. 30 in this town, where Muslims, Christians, and ethnic Chinese had lived quietly side by side for years, was one of the latest in a wildfire of riots that have spread across Indonesia in the last several months.

The violence, which has flared in Java and West Kalimantan since a major riot in Jakarta in July, has set Indonesia on edge before parliamentary elections in May.

There is a current of electricity running through this overcrowded country of 200 million people as society is transformed by a growing economy and as its longtime leader, President Suharto, grows older without making provision for a peaceful transition of power.

Seth Mydans/The New York Times

Hendra Kurnia, whose drum-beating on a Muslim feast day led to the rioting against minorities in Rengasdengklok, Indonesia, in January.

Mr. Suharto, 75, has not stated his intentions, but he is widely expected to stay on for another term. Although the governing party's victory in the elections here is not in doubt, the elections have become the focus for an array of grievances born of wrenching social changes.

Rising living standards have been accompanied by a deepening gap between rich and poor, widespread official corruption, peremptory land seizures, and a disruption of traditional rural society, but not by an increased responsiveness by the government, the courts, and the police to people's needs.

Each riot has had its own specific flashpoint — an unpopular courtroom verdict, a report of police brutality, a pay dispute. But each ended in the same way, with a destructive rampage that the army and the police were unable to control.

Hundreds of people have died in

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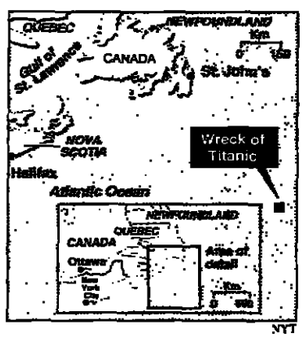
Anatomy of a Disaster / **An 85-Year Mystery**

Titanic Divers Find Hole In the Big-Gash Theory

By William J. Broad
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Hundreds of books have been written about the Titanic and why the opulent liner sank in 1912 on her inaugural voyage, taking about 1,500 lives in the worst maritime disaster of the day. Everyone agrees that an iceberg was the proximate cause. But the nature of the damage that led to the appalling loss of life has stirred debate for 85 years, the issue sustained by a nightmarish sense of disbelief.

How could a ship so costly and so well constructed — the biggest and supposedly safest vessel then afloat, one hailed as unsinkable — turn out to be so extraordinarily otherwise?



NYT

A persistent theory is that the iceberg tore open a 300-foot (90-meter) gash in the side of the 900-foot-long luxury liner. But the ship was lost off Newfoundland in waters about two and a half miles deep, and no author or naval detective was able to resolve the mystery.

Even after the liner was found in 1985, expeditions tended to focus on the sheer spectacle of the ghost ship rather than the nature of the damage inflicted by the iceberg, partly because the bow was mired in mud, hiding the damage.

Now, an international team of scientists and engineers that repeatedly dove to the remains of the Titanic last August is unveiling a surprise answer.

Probing through the mud with sound waves, the team found the damage to be astonishingly small — a series of six thin openings across the starboard hull. The total area of the damage appears to be about 12 to 13 square feet (just over one square meter).

What doomed the ship was the unlucky placement of the six slashes across six watertight holds, the experts say. A different pattern of damage might have avoided the disaster that started late on April 14, 1912, a quiet Sunday evening notable for its clear sky, chilly air and calm sea.

"Titanic was a victim that night," William Garzke Jr., a naval architect who aided the analysis, said last week in an interview. "Everything that could go wrong, did."

Working with computer simulations of the disaster and metallurgic analysis of retrieved fragments of Titanic steel, the team also addressed how the ship flooded, broke in two and plunged to the bottom. Finally, the team investigated the likely fate of the rusting hulk in the decades ahead, examining the onslaught of metal-loving microbes.

The group of experts was assembled by the Discovery Channel, which visited the wreck during the monthlong expedition last August. The result is a two-hour television special called "Titanic: Anatomy of a Disaster."

Mr. Garzke, a member of the Marine Forensics Panel of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, a Jersey City, New Jersey, group that advised the Discovery Channel on the investigation, was one of the main experts.

Another was David Livingstone, an official of Harland & Wolff in Belfast, the builder of the Titanic. It was the first time anyone from the company had descended to the broken hulk.

"The stern is a terrible mess," Mr. Livingstone said over an undersea microphone while exploring the wreck. But the bow, he added, "is still a very beautiful structure."

The opening of the Titanic to forensic analysis is part of a global trend in which the end of the Cold War is accelerating deep-sea exploration as former military personnel and technologies enter the civil sector and start to engage in commerce. In this case, the French government's submersible Nautile carried the investigators down to examine the ship's remains.

When the Titanic headed out across the Atlantic on April 11, 1912, it had every luxury: a gymnasium, cafés, squash courts, a swimming pool, Turkish baths, a barber shop and three libraries. The first-class lounge was styled after the palace at Versailles. The menu in the first-class dining saloon that fateful night included roast duckling, foie gras and Waldorf pudding.

After hitting the iceberg, the ship went down in a little more than two and a half hours, and the 700 survivors gave conflicting accounts of what happened. Based on eyewitness reports, it was generally believed that hull damage extended from the first through the sixth of the ship's 16 watertight compartments.

The Titanic was designed to survive the flooding of three and possibly four compartments, depending on which ones filled up.

At the British inquiry in 1912, Edward Wilding, one of Harland & Wolff's naval architects, proposed that the uneven flooding in the six compartments meant each had suffered unique, uncontinuous damage. Mr. Wilding also proposed that the actual cuts might be relatively small.

HIS testimony was widely ignored. Nearly everyone believed that the only thing that could undo a ship so big and well constructed was a huge gash.

That idea held sway even after the ship's discovery. A Russian expedition to the sunken liner in 1991 studied the ship's hull plate, finding it quite brittle. Joseph MacInnis, author of "Titanic in a New Light," wrote that repeated strikes to brittle plates perhaps caused them "to disintegrate, one after the other — in effect, opening up the side of the ship."

While leaving many puzzles, the dives to the Titanic's resting place from 1985 to 1995 documented that the bow and stern had come to rest nearly a half mile apart.

The dives to the wreckage last August were done by the French state oceanographic group, Ifremer, for Institut Francais de Recherche pour L'Exploitation de la Mer. The French institute in 1985 worked with an American team from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, that originally found the lost liner.

A major aim of the recent expedition was to use sound waves to image the Titanic's hidden bow. The wreckage, which slammed into the bottom at high speed in 1912, is today said to be buried in up to 55 feet of mud.

Working from the French submersible, Paul Matthias, president of Polaris Imaging Inc. in Narragansett, Rhode Island, imaged the sunken liner with an acoustic device known as a sub-bottom profiler, working in much the same way that a doctor examines a pregnant woman with ultrasound.

"There's no gash," he said in an interview. "What we're seeing is a series of deformations in the starboard side that start and stop along the hull. They're about 10 feet above the bottom of the ship."

"They appear to follow the hull plate," Mr. Matthias added, suggesting that iron rivets along plate seams probably popped open to create splits no wider than a person's hand.

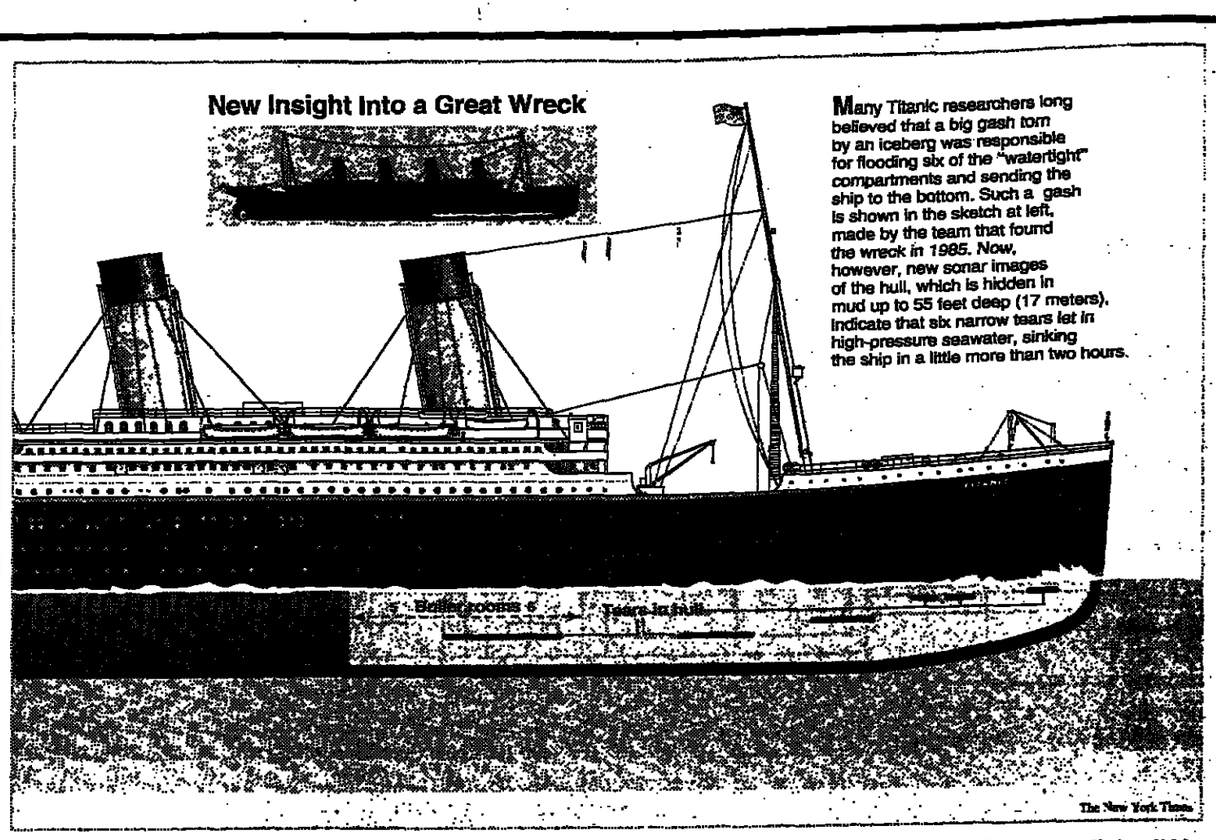
THE longest gap, 36 feet from end to end, extends between boiler rooms No. 5 and No. 6, just crossing the watertight bulkhead.

The gaps are small. But in 1912, just after the collision, they would have averaged about 20 feet below the waterline, where high pressures forced seawater through them like jets from firemen's hoses, filling the ship's interior with about 39,000 tons of water just before the sinking.

Mr. Garzke, a senior naval architect at Gibbs & Cox, Inc., said the pattern of damage would have been very different if the ship had been moving slower than its estimated speed of 22 knots, a very fast clip.

If going half as fast, the force of the iceberg's impact and the extent of its damage across the hull plates would have both been much less, Mr. Garzke said, adding that fewer compartments would have probably flooded.

"The ship," he said, "might have just survived."



Whose State Is It? Asks Arab Seeking Office in Israel

The Associated Press
Azmi Bishara, who says he will run for prime minister of Israel.

By Hope Keller
International Herald Tribune

While attention is again riveted on Israel's rock-strewn occupied territories, a more subtle struggle has been launched inside the state's pre-1967 borders.

Azmi Bishara, doctor of philosophy, Knesset member, Arab Student Union founder and provocateur, has become the first Arab to announce he will run for prime minister of Israel, in the elections in 2000. In so doing he aims to force a debate about Israel's definition of itself as both a Jewish state and a democracy for all its citizens, 18 percent of whom are Arab.

While all Israelis have Israeli citizenship, they are classified by nationality as Jews or Arabs on their identity cards. Arabs lag behind Jews in income and educational achievement, and Arab municipalities receive far less government money than Jewish areas, though Arabs' social and material conditions have improved considerably in recent years.

"Israel today exists to serve the Jews, not its citizens," Mr. Bishara, 40, said in a recent interview at his home outside Jerusalem, where he was recovering from a kidney transplant last month. "We should not accept for granted that Israel is the state of the Jews; Israel is the state of the Israelis. Without a separation of religion and state, Israel is not really a democracy."

He admits the obvious: "This is hard for Zionists to accept."

Changes in Israeli voting laws make his candidacy possible. Until the elections last year, prime ministerial candidates had to be the head of a major voting bloc, but Israelis now elect the prime minister directly, voting separately for Parliament.

Mr. Bishara, one of 11 Arabs in the 120-member Israeli Parliament, or Knesset, has no illusions about actually becoming prime minister. His goal, besides raising a debate about Israel's identity, is to force a runoff between Labor and Likud — the outcome if both parties get less than 50 percent — and then demand concessions from Labor, which in the past has relied on the Arab vote to win.

His announcement in February prompted an uproar — not so much because an Arab planned to run for prime minister, but because a rightist Knesset member immediately proposed a law banning Arabs from seeking the post. The measure was defeated.

"Israel doesn't want to legalize its racism," said Mr. Bishara, a philosophy professor at Bir Zeit University who says he keeps two photographs in his Knesset office: one of Abdel Gamal Nasser, the former Egyptian leader, and one of Mordechai Vanunu, the Israeli convicted in 1986 of having revealed the details of the nation's nuclear program.

"The Likud expressed amazement at my growing rudeness," he said, "but their attitude was, 'Let him run.'" He smiles. "I still think that hypocrisy is better than racism."

His challenge is also making it difficult for moderates and liberals, who, on a practical level, fear a siphoning-off of votes for Labor.

"Mr. Bishara has to make his own calculations and think whether he will help the peace camp by running," said Yoram Dori, the Labor Party spokesman. "If Mr. Bishara gets even 5,000 or 10,000 votes, it can make the difference between Labor's winning and losing."

When he narrowly lost the election to Benjamin Netanyahu last year, Shimon Peres, the Labor candidate, received 90 percent of the Arab vote.

Many also see Mr. Bishara's ability to run for high office as confirmation that Arabs are equal citizens in Israel — and thus don't need to go to such lengths as running for prime minister to prove it.

"His move indicates a process that's been accelerating in recent years — the 'Israelization,' or politicization, of Israel's Arabs," said Elie Rekhess, a professor at the Dayan Center for Middle East Studies at Tel Aviv University. "This is another landmark in the growing involvement of Israeli Arabs in Israeli government."

But he said Mr. Bishara's decision was also seen by many, both Jews and Arabs, as a provocation that could backfire, causing increased Jewish alienation from the Arabs.

"People says there'll be a price," Mr. Rekhess said. "They feel that what you can allow yourself as an intellectual lecturer at Bir Zeit and what you can allow yourself as a member of the Knesset are not the same thing."

Other Israeli commentators welcomed Mr. Bishara's challenge, saying that while the issues he raised were painful, the debate could ultimately be beneficial for all.

"He puts us to the test," said Akiva Eldar, a political columnist for the Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz. "He puts a mirror right into our faces, exposing the double messages we send ourselves."

One of those double messages is enshrined in Israel's Basic Law on the Dignity and Freedom of Man, said Yaron Ezrahi, a professor of political science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the author recently of "Rubber Bullets: Power and Conscience in Modern Israeli Society."

The law's purpose is to "defend the dignity and freedom of man in order to anchor in a constitutional law the values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and a democratic state."

"There's a great tension between those two commitments, Jewish and democratic," Mr. Ezrahi said. "Azmi is putting the issue of equality to the test of the political process. This is what makes him so important."

TRAVEL UPDATE

Denmark-Sweden Bridge Is Started

COPENHAGEN (AP) — The first concrete element of a bridge across the Oresund Strait between Denmark and Sweden has been put in place.

A 20,000-metric-ton (22,000-ton) caisson for one of the two high bridge pylons was transported by tugboats and placed 4.7 kilometers (3 miles) off Malmo, Sweden.

The other caisson is expected to be put in place next week.

The $3.1 billion Oresund link, scheduled to open early next century, will consist of a 7.8-kilometer bridge from Malmo to a 4-kilometer-long artificial island in the strait.

From there, a 3.5-kilometer tunnel will run to Copenhagen.

U.S.-Singapore 'Open Skies' Accord

SINGAPORE (AP) — The United States and Singapore signed an "open skies" agreement Tuesday that lifts restrictions on airlines flying between the two countries.

The agreement allows market forces, rather than governments, to determine air fares, flight frequencies and routes, said the U.S. ambassador to Singapore, Timothy Chorba.

It replaces a more restrictive arrangement signed in 1978.

Airlines of the two countries operate about 90 passenger and cargo trips between Singapore and the United States each week.

Washington expects to sign similar agreements with Brunei, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Korea and Taiwan soon, said Mark Gerchick, a U.S. Department of Transportation official.

Scores of hotels and restaurants could be forced to close because of a strike by truck drivers in India that has gone on for more than a week, officials in Bombay said. *(AFP)*

An Indian luxury train aimed at foreign tourists will start running on a new line in the west of the country in October 1998, United News of India reported. The train, called the Palace on Wheels, will cover the 650 kilometers between Bombay and Goa in six hours. *(AFP)*

Henry Hyde, Key OSS Figure, Dies

By Wolfgang Saxon
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Henry Baldwin Hyde, 82, a New York lawyer and onetime spymaster who helped pave the way for the Allied landings in France, died here Saturday after a long illness.

Mr. Hyde was a crucial figure in the team assembled by Major General William (Wild Bill) Donovan, architect of the Office of Strategic Services and "father" of the Central Intelligence Agency. Mr. Hyde was his chief of intelligence in France and later in Switzerland, and was the spymaster of Operation Penny Farthing.

Mr. Hyde was born in Paris to a socialite couple whose circle of friends included composers and spies and inspired his penchant for art and intrigue. He was also the grandson and namesake of the founder and first president of the Equitable Life Insurance Co. He was educated at Trinity College in Cambridge and the University of Bonn, and earned his law degree at Harvard. He set up practice in New York, where Allen Dulles found him for the OSS in 1942.

He was heading the French desk of the OSS in Algiers when he was picked to engineer Penny Farthing. His job was to recruit, brief and equip agents, select drop points and coordinate secret radio links with OSS operatives in France.

He hired agents and, after training them, smuggled them into France. The network produced accurate information on German troop movements and helped the high command plan and execute the landings in Normandy and the south of France.

After V-E Day, he replaced Mr. Dulles as the OSS chief in Switzerland. He returned to international law in New York in 1947, more recently as a partner in Wormser, Kiely, Galef & Jacobs.

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Businessman Shoots Tire In Airline Spat

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PHNOM PENH — A prominent Cambodian businessman shot at a tire of a parked airliner at the Phnom Penh airport Tuesday after a dispute over schedules and lost luggage.

No one was hurt, but a front wheel of the Royal Air Cambodge Boeing 737-400, on which the businessman, Teng Boonma, had been a passenger on a flight from Hong Kong, was damaged, officials said.

Mr. Teng Boonma, president of the Cambodian Chamber of Commerce, was unrepentant, saying the airline had a miserable service record. He said darkness had prevented him from shooting out all of the aircraft's tires. *(AFP, Reuters)*

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.

North America
Unseasonably chilly across the northern tier of the United States from the northern Rockies to the Northeast. A storm over the Rockies Thursday will affect the Plains and Midwest Friday into Saturday with rain in the south and snow, ice and rain across the north.

Europe
A strong storm will cross Scandinavia Thursday then move into the Baltics Friday. Unsettled weather is expected in Berlin and Warsaw through Friday. Mainly dry and mild over western Europe, including Paris, London and Amsterdam, though slightly cooler air may arrive Saturday.

Asia
Mainly dry and turning milder in Beijing. Seoul will be chilly through Friday, then will turn milder Saturday. Turning chillier across much of Japan, including Tokyo, with showers possible Friday. Warm and humid in Hong Kong and Singapore with a thundershower possible each day.

Europe

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algarve	18/64	13/55 sh	21/70	12/53 sh
Amsterdam	15/59	8/46 pc	16/61	9/48 s
Ankara	2/35	-7/20 sn	3/37	-6/22 pc
Athens	8/46	-1/31 s	10/50	3/37 s
Barcelona	13/55	7/44 pc	17/62	9/48 pc
Belgrade	7/44	-1/31 pc	12/53	3/37 s
Berlin	12/53	3/35 pc	15/59	6/43 s
Brussels	17/62	9/48 c	19/64	9/48 s
Budapest	6/46	-0/32 pc	12/53	4/39 s
Copenhagen	11/52	4/39 c	12/53	5/41 s
Costa Del Sol	18/64	13/55 sh	22/71	11/52 sh
Dublin	13/55	8/46 pc	16/64	10/50 s
Edinburgh	12/53	7/44 pc	15/64	9/48 s
Florence	16/59	9/48 s	18/64	6/43 pc
Frankfurt	17/62	5/41 c	17/62	4/39 s
Geneva	17/62	6/43 pc	17/62	6/43 pc
Helsinki	3/37	-6/22 sf	4/39	-2/29 pc
Istanbul	4/39	-0/28 sn	3/37	-4/25 s
Kiev	7/44	-2/29 pc	6/43	-4/25 s
Las Palmas	22/71	16/61 s	23/73	17/62 s
Lisbon	18/61	14/57 sh	20/68	13/55 sh
London	13/61	5/41 s	15/59	10/50 pc
Madrid	20/68	11/52 sh	20/68	7/44 pc
Mallorca	19/53	8/46 pc	16/61	10/50 pc
Milan	19/66	8/46 pc	18/66	8/46 pc
Moscow	-1/31	-9/16 c	-2/29	-8/16 pc
Munich	13/55	3/37 pc	14/57	4/39 s
Nice	15/59	9/48 s	18/64	12/53 pc
Oslo	9/48	3/37 c	13/55	3/37 s
Paris	17/62	5/41 s	18/64	6/46 pc
Prague	11/52	3/37 c	13/55	3/37 s
Reykjavik	7/44	3/37 r	8/46	7/44 sh
Riga	3/37	0/32 pc	6/43	1/34 pc
Rome	17/62	4/39 s	15/61	7/44 s
St. Petersburg	2/35	-7/20 pc	3/37	-5/24 pc
Stockholm	9/48	2/35 sn	11/52	0/32 s
Strasbourg	17/62	7/44 pc	19/64	7/44 pc
Tallinn	4/39	-4/25 sf	3/37	-1/31 r
Tbilisi	8/46	4/39 r	7/44	-1/31 r
Venice	14/57	7/44 pc	16/61	6/43 pc
Vienna	11/52	3/37 pc	13/55	4/39 s
Warsaw	6/43	1/34 pc	8/46	2/35 pc
Zurich	18/61	6/43 pc	16/61	6/43 pc

Middle East

Abu Dhabi	34/93	22/71 s	34/93	17/62 s
Beirut	9/48	3/37 pc	8/46	2/36 pc
Cairo	19/61	4/39 pc	17/62	8/46 pc
Damascus	7/44	-3/27 pc	8/46	-4/25 pc
Jerusalem	7/44	-2/29 pc	7/44	-2/29 pc
Luxor	29/84	8/46 s	27/80	7/44 s
Riyadh	32/89	18/64 s	30/86	16/61 s

North America

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Anchorage	7/44	-1/31 pc	9/48	1/34 pc
Atlanta	19/66	7/44 pc	18/64	8/46 pc
Boston	3/37	-4/25 s	6/43	-2/29 pc
Chicago	3/37	-6/22 pc	6/43	-2/29 pc
Dallas	16/61	11/52 c	15/64	12/53 sh
Denver	3/37	-3/27 sn	4/39	-5/22 sf
Detroit	4/39	-4/25 pc	4/39	-2/29 pc
Honolulu	25/82	19/66 pc	27/80	19/66 pc
Houston	22/71	14/57 t	22/71	16/61 c
Los Angeles	19/66	10/50 pc	19/66	7/44 pc
Miami	26/82	21/70 pc	27/80	20/68 pc
Minneapolis	0/32	-5/16 pc	3/37	-6/21 pc
Montreal	-6/22	-13/9 c	-2/29	-10/15 s
Nassau	25/77	19/66 pc	27/80	19/66 pc
New York	7/44	0/32 s	7/44	1/34 pc
Orlando	24/75	18/64 sh	26/79	18/64 c
Phoenix	24/75	11/52 s	23/73	10/50 s
San Fran.	16/61	9/48 pc	16/61	7/44 pc
Seattle	12/53	4/39 pc	12/53	2/35 pc
Toronto	-4/25	-12/11 pc	0/32	-7/20 s
Vancouver	10/50	0/32 c	10/50	-2/29 s
Washington	10/50	-1/31 s	10/50	1/34 s

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hco, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1997

Asia

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Amoy	19/66	6/43 s	19/66	6/43 pc
Bali	32/89	21/70 pc	31/88	21/70 pc
Bangkok	32/89	23/73 c	32/89	23/73 pc
Beijing	19/66	7/44 s	19/66	7/44 s
Bombay	30/86	18/64 s	29/84	18/64 s
Calcutta	33/91	21/70 s	33/91	21/70 pc
Chiang Mai	33/91	23/73 c	32/89	21/70 pc
Colombo	30/86	23/73 s	31/88	23/73 s
Hanoi	25/79	22/71 sh	27/80	21/70 sh
Ho Chi Minh	34/93	24/75 pc	33/91	24/75 c
Hong Kong	23/73	20/68 sh	24/75	20/68 sh
Islamabad	30/86	13/55 s	31/88	16/61 s
Jakarta	30/86	23/73 pc	28/82	22/71 t
Karachi	36/97	23/68 s	33/91	19/66 s
K. Lumpur	32/89	23/71 sh	31/88	23/71 r
K. Kinabalu	30/86	23/71 c	31/88	23/73 pc
Manila	35/91	21/70 pc	33/88	23/71 s
New Delhi	37/98	19/61 s	37/98	17/63 s
Phnom Penh	33/91	23/71 c	33/91	23/73 pc
Phuket	32/89	23/73 c	32/89	23/73 pc
Rangoon	33/91	24/75 c	33/91	23/73 pc
Seoul	11/52	0/32 s	12/53	1/34 s
Shanghai	17/62	7/44 pc	17/62	8/46 pc
Singapore	31/88	23/71 c	31/88	23/73 pc
Taipei	24/75	19/66 r	23/71	21/70 r
Tokyo	22/71	9/48 pc	14/57	5/41 s
Vientiane	28/79	21/70 sh	28/79	23/71 sh

Africa

Algiers	15/59	9/48 sh	16/61	9/48 c
Cape Town	23/73	13/55 pc	22/71	14/57 s
Casablanca	20/68	12/53 pc	18/66	13/55 pc
Harare	23/73	13/55 pc	21/70	11/52 s
Lagos	32/89	23/73 s	32/89	24/75 pc
Nairobi	21/70	17/62 r	27/80	13/55 sh
Tunis	14/57	7/44 pc	14/57	9/48 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	24/75	16/64 r	22/71	10/50 r
Caracas	27/80	22/71 pc	29/84	22/71 pc
Lima	27/82	19/66 pc	28/79	19/66 pc
Mexico City	23/73	10/50 pc	25/77	10/50 pc
Rio de Janeiro	29/71	14/57 pc	31/70	16/61 pc
Santiago	28/82	3/48 s	29/79	10/50 pc

Oceania

Auckland	20/68	13/55 pc	19/66	13/55 c
Sydney	22/71	14/57 s	21/70	13/55 pc

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THE AMERICAS

Few Hopes for Campaign Reform

Americans Doubt Washington Will Deliver on Promises, Poll Says

By Francis X. Clines
New York Times Service

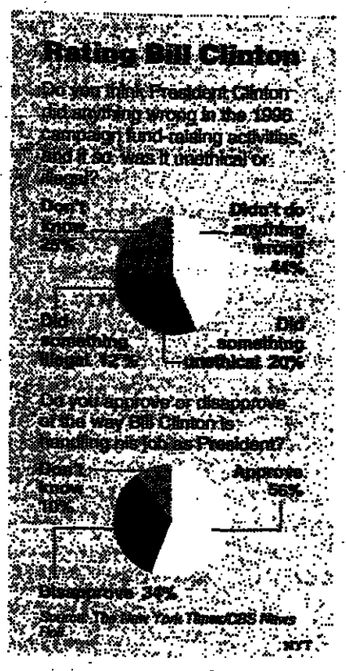
NEW YORK — While a significant majority of the American people believe that fundamental changes are needed in the campaign financing system, most doubt that President Bill Clinton and Congress are sincerely committed to changing it, according to the latest New York Times/CBS News Poll.

The president is nevertheless maintaining his strong personal standing with the public, the poll found, despite months of sometimes withering accusations of improper campaign fund-raising tactics.

In contrast, Vice President Al Gore has suffered a sizable loss of approval as the controversy over campaign finances has grown.

Almost 9 of 10 people surveyed see the need for fundamental changes in fund-raising procedures, or even an overhaul. But only 3 in 10 say they believe that the president really wants change, despite his announced commitment to it. The resolve of Congress is subject to even greater doubt, with only 23 percent of the public convinced that the lawmakers, for all their talk, want to change the current laws.

While Mr. Clinton's commitment to change is being questioned, his personal standing remains strong as Congress gears up for hearings into his 1996 re-election practices. The telephone poll registered a 56 percent job approval rating for the president, largely because of his handling of the economy. That is only seven points below his personal high, registered by CBS News after his second inauguration.



The campaign financing issue gained momentum after the president's re-election with a steady stream of disclosures about the wide net that had been cast by the Clinton-Gore team to reach affluent donors to the Democratic Party.

Asked about Mr. Clinton's campaign fund-raising practices, 44 percent of respondents said he had done nothing wrong, while 20 percent judged his activities unethical and 12 percent illegal. Despite his general approval rating, two of five Americans said they thought the president had made or changed policy decisions as a direct result of money he raised for the party from major donors.

As a "top priority" solution on the campaign-financing issue, the public favors effective campaign disclosure (54 percent) more strongly than limiting either campaign spending (23 percent) or special-interest contributions (28 percent). On specific proposals for changing the system, more than three of five favor significant free television time for presidential candidates, while 70 percent favor cutting, to $1,000 from $5,000, the maximum that a political action committee can spend on a single candidate.

"The special-interest groups spend millions to get their point across, and people like me aren't heard at all," said Pam Elliott, a 42-year-old living on disability payments in Dyersburg, Tennessee. "Money talks."

The latest Times/CBS poll is based on telephone interviews conducted April 2-5 with 1,347 adults throughout the United States.

Aid to Legal Immigrants Is in Dispute

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Republicans have announced that they are drafting legislation to provide as much as $2 billion in aid to states with large numbers of legal immigrants who will lose benefits under the new welfare law, but Clinton administration officials said they opposed the plan because it would result in disparate policies in different states.

Instead, the adminstration officials say they want full restoration of disability benefits for most legal immigrants, including children and elderly people who have not become citizens.

Republicans in Congress want to provide states with lump sums of money, or block grants, to help legal immigrants. House Republicans, led by Representative Clay Shaw Jr. of Florida, are considering a maximum of $2 billion in aid over the next two or three years.

By contrast, President Bill Clinton would permanently restore disability benefits and Medicaid for many legal immigrants, at a cost of $15 billion over six years.

The dispute continues a philosophical debate that has raged since Republicans took control of Congress in 1995 on whether states or the federal government can better design social welfare programs.

Donna Shalala, the Health and Human Services secretary, said the administration opposed block grants because they would be "unfair and unworkable." She said the administration believed that the federal government should set uniform national standards for providing disability benefits to legal immigrants.

"We believe that an elderly disabled immigrant — a 75-year-old disabled woman — in New Hampshire ought to be treated the same as a woman of the same age in California or Ohio," Ms. Shalala said. "Their eligibility should be determined through national policy, not left to the discretion of the states."

Republicans on Capitol Hill said that they were surprised by the administration's position and that it could backfire. The president and the immigrants risked ending up with nothing if they insisted on getting far more than Congress was willing to provide to legal immigrants, the Republicans said.

Mr. Shaw, the chairman of the Ways and Means subcommittee on human resources, said he recently had a sobering conversation with the chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Representative Robert Livingston of Louisiana, who said it would be difficult to find even $2 billion to assist states with benefits for many legal immigrants.

As for the $15 billion sought by Mr. Clinton, Mr. Shaw said: "That's just out of sight. It ain't going to happen. There's no way Congress is going to be able to find that kind of money. There's no sense even thinking about it."

POLITICAL NOTES

Tom Hanson/The Associated Press

Mr. Gingrich at the GOPAC meeting in Washington, where he questioned the AFL-CIO's political activity.

Gingrich Fires Back at Labor

WASHINGTON — The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, has challenged labor leaders to make the two years until the 1998 congressional elections a referendum on the role of organized labor in America.

"More debates with people like John Sweeney are good for America," Mr. Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, told a group of large donors at a dinner of GOPAC, the political action committee he once headed.

Mr. Sweeney is the president of the AFL-CIO, the largest American labor organization.

"Let's make sure people know who's trying to rig the game and who's trying to tell a one-sided story and let the American people decide," Mr. Gingrich said.

Mr. Gingrich was reacting to $700,000 in television and radio commercials the AFL-CIO ran last week against 12 House Republicans and 7 conservative and moderate House Democrats — most of them first- and second-term lawmakers who narrowly won election in 1996. The ads accused the lawmakers of favoring corporate interests over working families.

Last year, organized labor spent tens of millions of dollars in an unsuccessful effort to give the Democrats a majority in the House of Representatives. The House Republican campaign committee did not begin spending money to respond to labor attacks until the closing weeks of the campaign.

Now, Mr. Gingrich said, "we should raise the resources and we should say to John Sweeney, 'Let's go ahead and have a two-year debate about the role of unions in this nation.'" *(WP)*

Gore Cites Gains in Courtesy

BETHESDA, Maryland — No deed is too small to earn someone a pat on the back from Vice President Al Gore when it comes to improving government. Decisions to recycle Marine uniforms, mount a safety campaign for New Jersey highway workers and even put a number on a federal building so people can find it are being praised by Mr. Gore as signs "the era of better government has begun."

Mr. Gore gave a pep talk to more than 600 federal workers and private-sector managers at a meeting to discuss ways to make government more efficient. Claiming early success in the drive to answer phones faster, cut red tape and be polite, he said the effort to treat people like customers "will amaze the bench-warmers" who doubt it can be done.

Most federal agencies set standards for customer service under the National Performance Review started early in the first Clinton-Gore administration. By their own first accounting, they have made inroads in achieving public satisfaction. According to a survey by 150 agencies, previewed by Mr. Gore, the U.S. Customs Service has been answering all calls within a minute, almost all callers to the Social Security Administration are getting through in five minutes, and the mail is moving faster.

"We've sure come a long way from the days when we weren't even sure who our customers were," Mr. Gore said.

Bureaucratic efficiency is one of Mr. Gore's less glamorous specialities as he tries to make his own mark before an expected presidential run in 2000.

The conference celebrated modest triumphs of common sense.

The Forest Service won applause for putting a number on its building and having satisfactory hours of operation and information services.

At the Patent and Trademark Office, the survey found "the public was treated courteously 80.8 percent of the time and directed promptly to the proper office or person 60.4 percent of the time," still leaving plenty of people treated rudely or inefficiently. *(AP)*

Quote/Unquote

Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, criticizing the government's move to give the nation's broadcasters new television channels worth billions of dollars for digital TV: "This gift takes federal largesse to a breathtaking new level." *(AP)*

Away From Politics

• **Congress is preparing to pass legislation** that would strengthen a law prohibiting Internal Revenue Service employees from snooping into taxpayer records. Bills in the U.S. House and Senate would provide for prison time and fines for illegal browsing through IRS files. *(AP)*

• **Nearly one person in 10 living in the United States** was born somewhere else. There were 24,557,000 people in the United States last year who were born in another country, 9.3 percent of the population, according to the Census Bureau. That is up sharply from 4.8 percent in 1970 and the highest since the 1930 census counted 11.6 percent of foreign-born residents. *(AP)*

• **A teenager killed by the police as** he carried a machete on a street in northern Manhattan early Sunday was shot in the back, according to an autopsy. Police Commissioner Howard Safir said as a growing dispute swirled around the case. *(NYT)*

• **Federal prosecutors in New York** charged 55 defendants with participating in conspiracies to traffic in cocaine and launder money for a Colombian drug group. *(Reuters)*

• **The United States and Canada** have initialed an agreement to reduce pollution in the Great Lakes by 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency announced. *(AFP)*

• **The New York teenager who was** beaten by a gang of young men in Manhattan during the St. Patrick's Day parade last month has died. The teenager, Michael Sarti, an 18-year-old high school senior, was hurt in a street fight between Bronx and Brooklyn youths that erupted on March 17, as the parade made its way up Fifth Avenue. *(NYT)*

Pope Appoints Prelate For Chicago Diocese

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Vatican on Tuesday picked Archbishop Francis George of Portland, Oregon, to head the archdiocese of Chicago, the nation's second-largest.

Archbishop George, a 60-year-old Chicago native who overcame childhood polio, succeeds Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, who died of cancer in November.

Cardinal Bernardin was a liberal-minded mediator who sought to repair divisions between traditionalists and progressives with a more conciliatory approach than some supported. Archbishop George is more conservative.

Cardinal Bernardin's biographer, Eugene Kennedy, said the appointment "gives Chicago a pastor and gives the Pope a man after his own heart at the same time."

The diocese of Chicago has 2.3 million Roman Catholics.

NYU to Refund $15.5 Million to U.S.

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors said that New York University Medical Center intentionally and routinely overcharged the federal government for research costs, and announced they had reached a $15.5 million settlement.

Federal officials concluded that the medical center had tried to increase its share of federal money over a decade by providing a "false, inaccurate and incomplete picture" of what it cost in overhead to conduct research projects.

For example, the medical center is said to have given the government waste disposal bills already paid by other sources and to have inflated housekeeping bills, and counted as overhead costs for research such items as food for the medical school commencement dinner and expenses from the public affairs department.

The medical center agreed Monday to pay $15.5 million, by far the largest amount in any case involving research overhead at a university, but asserted that it had done nothing wrong. The largest previous settlement for overstating research overhead was against Harvard for $4.6 million in 1983.

PILL: *Hoechst Drops RU-486*

Continued from Page 1

detractors say the procedure is not as safe, simple or certain as proponents say.

Hoechst has done little to market the abortion drug in recent years. But Ms. Euvrard said that Hoechst hoped that Dr. Sakiz would be "more proactive" in promoting it.

She said that during a transition period, Hoechst would continue manufacturing the drug, while "doing everything it can" to help Dr. Sakiz set up his company, including providing stock of the drug's active ingredient.

Dr. Sakiz will have the rights to drug distribution in every country but the United States, but Ms. Euvrard said the standards Hoechst has applied for selling RU-486 would continue to apply: Abortion must be legal in the target country; there must be a formal request from the country's government; there must be "a certain degree of consensus on abortion" in the country; high-quality medical centers must be available to ensure proper follow-up for women using the drug; distribution channels must be secure, to ensure that no black market in the drug emerges; and the drug prostaglandin, which is used in the procedure, must be available.

One of the anti-abortion groups calling for the boycott of Hoechst's allergy drug, the Family Research Council, took out a full-page in USA Today against Allegra. A spokeswoman, Kristi Hamrick, said of Tuesday's announcement, "We're certainly going to have to evaluate this change."

She said her group would continue to campaign against RU-486.

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America, a group that advocates birth control and provides abortion services, denied that Hoechst's transfer of RU-486 could be viewed as a moral victory for abortion foes.

"The fact is," said Margaret Conway, a Planned Parenthood vice president, "the opponents of medical abortion are the same extremists who want to outlaw all abortions, and that's simply not going to happen."

The Population Council, which hopes to begin producing RU-486 in the United States by the end of the year, was measured in its own reaction to Tuesday's news.

A spokeswoman, Sandra Waldman, said that Hoechst's shifting of patent rights outside the United States was not unlike the process in 1994 by which U.S. rights were granted to the Population Council.

Roussel gave up trying to sell RU-486, or Mifepristone, in the United States because of opposition from abortion protesters.

The council is now in the process of providing information on labeling and manufacture to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Final approval is expected to be granted later this year.

The council has found a manufacturer for the drug, but the debate in the United States is so sensitive that it refuses to name, or even characterize, the company. The U.S. market for the pill has been estimated at $100 million annually.

RU-486 works by blocking the action of progesterone, a natural hormone essential for maintaining pregnancy. The drug must be given within three weeks after the first missed menstrual cycle.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Cheek
5 Runs in neutral
10 Latitude
14 Woody's son
15 State capital or its river
16 Artist Magritte
17 Ham operator's dog?
19 Prefix with -hedron
20 Napkin's place
21 Buffalo hunter
22 Feast of Lots honoree
24 Dam
25 Showing a fancy for
26 Cooked cereal
29 Kind of roll
32 Think a thought
34 Reading, for a famous example
36 Mishmash
38 Called the butler
37 Not set
38 Large green moth
39 Work units
40 They're kept under lids at night
41 — the hills
42 Drop in
44 Least laugh-out-loud, as humor
46 Parroted
48 Can't stand
47 Two-dimensional
50 Future jr.
51 Leg. title
54 Kharagpur queen
56 Hairdresser's dog?
58 30's migrant
59 Flip chart site
60 Woolen cape
61 Farmer's locale?
62 Metric unit
63 Boxer's stat

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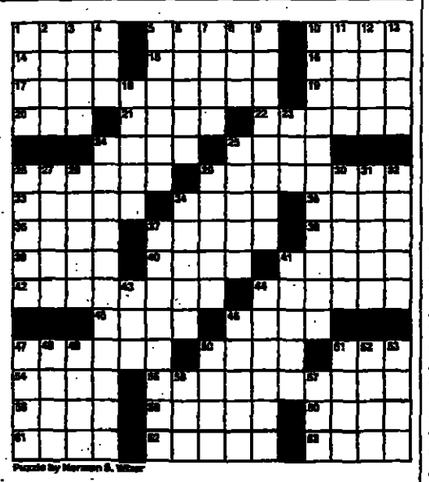
5 Locale of the Cantabrian Mountains
6 Mother hen, e.g.
7 Low-cal
8 Lubbock-to-Fort Worth dir.
9 In a calm manner
10 Diplomat's dog?
11 Poland's Walesa
12 Kitty feed
13 Junior, e.g.
18 Scape
23 Peter and Paul: Abbr.
24 Pilot's dog?
25 Best Actor of 1990
26 Shouts on the links
27 Disjointedly
28 Spoken-word #1 hit of 1964
29 One administering corporal punishment
30 Shake off
31 Hirschfeld hidings
33 Brown
34 Reinforced with a rope
37 Exhibits dyslexia
41 Lawn products brand
43 W.W. II agcy.
44 Parti-colored
46 Noted marine watercolorist
47 Egg on
48 Cottage site
49 Indigo dye
50 Enclosure with a MS.
51 Neighbor of Minn.
52 Pollster Roper
53 Hero of 60's TV and 80's film
56 Toque, for one
57 Six-time home run champ



Puzzle by Norman S. Stiller

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of April 8

A	B	B	E		C	A	R	A		M	I	L	L	E
W	E	A	K		U	P	O	N		A	D	A	I	R
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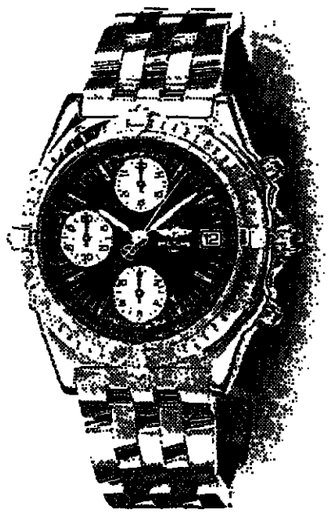

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Q & A / **Martin Lee**

China 'Reneging' on Hong Kong Pledge

In the British crown colony's waning days, Martin Lee, chairman of Hong Kong's Democratic Party and a member of the Legislative Council, remains an outspoken activist, who militates for democratic rights in what will become a "special administrative region" of China after June 30. While in Geneva for the current session of the UN Human Rights Commission, Mr. Lee spoke with Robert Kroon of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. In the Human Rights Commission, China is bitterly contesting a draft resolution condemning human-rights violations in the Chinese People's Republic. What does that portend for the future of democratic rights in Hong Kong after the Chinese takeover?

A. Democracy is on the move in the world, but in the case of Hong Kong it is moving in the opposite direction. In the Joint Declaration with Britain, China promised we would be masters in our own house under the "one country, two systems" formula. But that was before Tiananmen.

Since then, Beijing's hands-off policy has changed into a hands-on policy. Democracy implies an independent legislature, an independent executive and an independent judiciary, but after the handover there'll be none of that. China wants full control of Hong Kong. It already controls the executive, and after June 30 the legislature will soon follow suit, with our judges compelled to enforce Chinese-promulgated laws.

A free press, the rule of law, right of assembly, free education and political demonstrations will disappear.

At the time, the world applauded the Joint Declaration and the promise of no change for a 50-year period. Now that Beijing is reneging on its commitment, there is silence all around, because everybody is starry-eyed about that potential Chinese market of 1.2 billion customers. But you don't protect freedoms by kowtowing.

•

Q. What about United States policy in this respect?

A. At the moment the U.S. does not have a China policy. The American administration does not even respect its own laws. In 1992 the Congress unanimously adopted the Hong Kong Policy Act, stipulating separate treatment for our territory, including democratic rights and an elected legislature. It was one of the last laws signed by George Bush before he left office. If you adopt a policy, you should stick to it.

•

Q. To what extent will the end of the Deng Xiaoping era affect the future of Hong Kong?

A. That depends on how China's new leaders feel about their own position in the national power structure. If they feel secure, they may allow more freedom. At the moment I think they feel insecure, and that makes me pessimistic about the future of Hong Kong — at least in the short term. In the long term, they won't be able to block the march of democracy. But right now, there's a feeling of helplessness among the Hong Kong people. The exodus is still going on, at least for those who can afford to leave.

•

Q. China is known to deal harshly with dissidents. Doesn't that make you a marked man?

A. Could be. This will probably be my last visit to the Human Rights Commission in Geneva. But Martin Lee will stick to his convictions and won't turn his back on the people of Hong Kong.

Burma Says Mail Bomb Came From Japan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

RANGOON — Authorities said Tuesday that an explosion that killed a daughter of the military government's second secretary, Lieutenant General Tin Oo, had been caused by a parcel bomb airmailed from Japan.

"There are reasons to believe that the bomb plot was masterminded by some anti-Myanmar government groups within Japan," an information sheet issued by a military intelligence body said. Myanmar is the government's name for Burma.

There are several Burmese exile groups in Japan and other Asian countries, such as Thailand and India. Exile groups in Thailand have been blamed for previous bomb attacks in Burma, but all denied involvement in the explosion Sunday.

A source close to General Tin Oo's family said the explosive had been planted in a parcel with Japanese stamps on it that his daughter, Cho Lei Oo, 34, had been encouraged to open after a phone call.

Security checks were increased in Rangoon, although troop presence on the streets was already heavy.

State-run media carried only a short report on the attack, broadcast on radio and television late Monday and carried in all newspapers Tuesday, with an obituary of the general's daughter.

Analysts said Tuesday that the attack added a different element of violence to an already tense political situation.

"This is a new, most unwelcome development in Burma's political culture," a diplomat based in Rangoon said.

"They do a lot of nasty things to each other, but parcel bombs are a whole different issue. This is not something traditionally part of the political culture here." *(AFP, Reuters)*

■ Appeal for Intervention

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the pro-democracy Burmese opposition leader, appealed in a smuggled videotape for international intervention to protect her followers from the government, The Associated Press reported from Bangkok.

The tape, viewed in Bangkok, was to be played before the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

The Burmese government has denied a UN human-rights investigator entry into the country and, because Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been under virtual house arrest in Rangoon since November, messages from her are rare.

She said in the tape that her party's rights were of paramount importance because the government already had crushed all other democratic political parties operating nationally in Burma.

Since May 1996, the government has launched a series of crackdowns on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's party, arresting hundreds and sentencing many to long prison terms.

Several party members have been forced to resign, she said.

She said the actions against her party showed "how far the authorities are prepared to go to prevent democracy from taking root in Burma."

Cohen Tells U.S. Servicemen In Japan to 'Be Ambassadors'

The Associated Press

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Mindful of the strains on the U.S.-Japan military alliance, Defense Secretary William Cohen pointedly reminded American troops Tuesday to avoid the "one bad deed" that can spoil relations.

"Everything you do reflects upon our country, wherever you are deployed," Mr. Cohen said during breakfast with troops at this U.S. air base near Tokyo.

"You're not only soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, you also are ambassadors," Mr. Cohen said. "You do 100 good deeds and you will get credit for it. On the other hand, all you have to have is one bad deed and that makes the headline news and changes people's perceptions."

The military alliance has been under particular strain since a September 1995 rape of a 12-year-old Okinawan girl by three U.S. servicemen. The public outcry prompted calls for reductions in the U.S. military presence in Japan of 47,000 troops. The United States has 100,000 troops in Asia overall.

■ China Assails U.S. Deployment

China attacked Washington's continued deployment of troops in Asia, saying Tuesday that regional problems should be solved by Asian countries, Agence France-Presse reported from Beijing.

"The Chinese government has always been opposed to stationing troops abroad," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "We believe the problems of Asia must be resolved by the countries which are part of the region."

False Alarm Traps 281 on Jet

Agence France-Presse

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Armed FBI agents swooped in on an Air New Zealand flight at Los Angeles after the pilot wrongly activated a hijack alert just before landing, press reports said here Tuesday.

They ran to the jet as it stopped and kept the 281 passengers aboard for 45 minutes.

BRIEFLY

Apichart Weerawong/Reuters

A member of the Assembly of the Poor shouting in displeasure at Thai government officials during a blockade in Bangkok on Tuesday.

Rubin Meets Leader Of Vietnamese Party

HO CHI MINH CITY — The U.S. secretary of the Treasury, Robert Rubin, met Tuesday with the Vietnamese Communist Party chief, Do Muoi, for talks that Mr. Rubin described as "very focused on the economic development in Vietnam."

Mr. Muoi "stressed the 4,000-year history of the country and the fact that much of it has been a troubled history and a proud history," Mr. Rubin said after the 55-minute meeting. "What he would really like to see now is for Vietnam to grow economically."

He added that the meeting was similar to one Monday with Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet in Hanoi, where they discussed moving ahead on full economic normalization and impediments faced by American businesses in Vietnam.

Mr. Muoi told him he "hoped we could move on the various aspects of economic normalization at a good pace," Mr. Rubin said. But the Vietnamese leader also said, "He understood that each of these things involves complications." *(AFP)*

Thai Offices Blocked

BANGKOK — Several thousand demonstrators blockaded Prime Minister Chaovalit Yongchaiyut and his Thai government ministers inside their offices for more than two hours Tuesday to protest a lack of action on social issues.

About 3,000 to 4,000 people moved on the gates of Government House after the Thai cabinet declined to discuss their demands, a spokesman for the Assembly of the Poor said.

"The Assembly of the Poor was informed by the government that the cases raised by the poor were not ready to be sent to the cabinet as they needed more time for consideration," said Nitirat Sapsomboom, an assembly spokesman.

The group is the main organizer of a protest in which about 10,000 people camped out around Government House since Jan. 25 have demanded action on social and developmental issues. *(AFP)*

7 Die in Hong Kong

HONG KONG — Residents squatted on window ledges and clung to drainpipes to escape a fire that killed at least seven people, including two babies, in a residential building in Hong Kong on Tuesday.

The fire broke out at lunchtime on the sixth floor of a 20-story building in the Kowloon district and spread to a lower floor. Fire fighters took four hours to quell the blaze.

A government spokeswoman said at least 28 persons were injured. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. *(Reuters)*

For the Record

A bus plunged into a 45-meter gorge in northern India on Tuesday, killing at least 38 people and injuring 20, police officials said. The accident occurred at Dharmadi, 82 kilometers (51 miles) northeast of Jammu, the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir state. *(Reuters)*

The food situation in Peshawar, Pakistan, eased Tuesday as authorities rushed emergency supplies of flour to stores and dealers following public unrest marked by mob attacks. Officials said more flour was on the way. *(AFP)*

Papua New Guinea prosecutors have dropped illegal firearm charges against Tim Spicer, a retired British colonel who led 70 African mercenaries into the South Pacific nation, a prosecution official said. *(Reuters)*

Stretch

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EUROPE

Greek City Breaks 'Unbearable Silence' About Jewish Past

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

SALONIKA, Greece — It has been more than 50 years since Nazi occupiers wiped out all traces of this port city's rich Jewish past. All but one of its 36 synagogues were destroyed, and all but a few thousand of a prewar population of 56,000 Jews were killed in Nazi death camps.

The war ended, and the survivors returned — only to find that all traces of their suffering, too, had somehow vanished. As at Babi Yar, the notorious Nazi mass grave in Ukraine where Soviet authorities for decades refused to acknowledge that most of the victims were Jews, Salonika has been slow to recognize that its large and vibrant Jewish community was singled out for annihilation.

"There was such an unbearable silence about the Jews of Salonika," said Andreas Sefiha, 69, the president of the city's Jewish community. As a boy of 13, he managed to escape the occupied city in 1943 before the trains started leaving for Auschwitz.

"It was sometimes as if we had never existed," he said. "For my generation, it was like a second death."

As Salonika celebrates its turn this year as the European Union's cultural capital, the city, the second-largest in Greece, is at last coming to terms with its history. Its first monument to the victims of the Holocaust is to be erected soon in a central square, and two new museums dedicated to Jewish life and culture over the last five centuries are to open this spring.

Doing right by Salonika's past was "one of the most difficult tasks" that Panos Theodoridis, a writer and architectural restorer, said he confronted when he became the fourth artistic director of the organization in charge of events for the cultural-capital role.

"People here tend to forget that this city was multinational right from the beginning," he said. "Now it is time to pay homage to all those who formed the city's character."

Mr. Sefiha, who took a leave from his family's machine-building business to devote his energies to a Jewish community that now numbers a mere 1,150, considers the establishment of the museums and the monument a belated act of justice.

"I think after we have the monument, more people will be interested to know the history of this town — why it is necessary to have a monument at all," he said.

To the discomfort of local Greek nationalists, it is a history that was largely Jewish during the 500 years of Ottoman Turkish occupation, with strong influences of Armenians and the Turks themselves.

The first great wave of Sephardic Jews came to Salonika in the late 15th century, expelled during the Inquisition in Spain and Portugal. In time, the community grew with the arrivals of Ashkenazi Jews from Eastern Europe, until, by the late 19th century, Jews made up two-thirds of the city's population. Business was conducted either in French or Ladino, the Judeo-Hispanic language spoken by the Sephardim, and shops and offices closed on Saturday for the Jewish Sabbath.

All evidence of this past is virtually gone now, and not only because of the Nazis. There were fires and earthquakes, but also a local strain of Greek nationalism, fueled by the arrival in 1923 of about 160,000 ethnic Greeks transferred from the Turkish mainland. Not only has Salonika never commemorated its Holocaust victims, but its children also find scant reference to the city's multicultural past in their school textbooks.

"Nothing appears in the books — no mention at all," Mr. Sefiha said. "But I am sure one day people will write again the story of this town in a more objective way."

The Jewish contribution to the city's past is not the only historical memory to have fallen victim to a collective amnesia. In local guidebooks and in literature printed for this year's international cultural events, the five centuries of Ottoman rule are referred to euphemistically as the "post-Byzantine" period, a reflection of the strong anti-Turkish sentiment that is part of Greek consciousness.

This was not always so. In the 1930s, in a gesture of goodwill to the modern secular Turkish state founded by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the Salonika city council offered him as a gift the house where he had been born — a modest, pleasant building with a garden, which has survived as one of the few examples of Turkish middle-class life in a city that was once the second largest in the Ottoman Empire.

The house, now attached to the heavily guarded Turkish consulate, is now not only forgotten, but deliberately ignored by the local authorities, who never include it in any list of local historical attractions.

Few Greeks are aware that Ataturk was born in Salonika or that this was where the Young Turks began the revolution that eventually brought down the Ottoman Empire. The street along the side of the house, which was once called Ataturk Street, was renamed long ago.

Panel Urges Trial For 2 Top Turks

Pair Linked to Death Squads

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — A parliamentary commission investigating charges that the Turkish government sponsored death squads and allowed gunmen to smuggle drugs and commit other crimes has recommended that two members of Parliament be stripped of their immunity and brought to trial.

The report said both men may have been leaders of a shadowy gang used by the government in recent years to assassinate perceived enemies of the state.

One of them, Sedat Bucak, is chief of a pro-government Kurdish militia that has been helping the army fight Kurdish rebels. The other, Mehmet Agar, was interior minister until shortly after the November car crash that brought the scandal to light.

In the crash, a senior police official and a convicted heroin smuggler were both killed. Mr. Bucak, who was riding with them, was seriously injured. Pistols, silencers and other weapons were found in the wrecked car's trunk.

The new report said some of the weapons have been traced back to police agencies. It concluded that the men in the car were on their way to carry out "an illegal mission."

Prosecutors in Istanbul have been trying to bring Mr. Bucak and Mr. Agar to trial for two months, but say efforts to remove their immunity have been hindered by senior government officials.

Mr. Bucak has denied any wrongdoing. Mr. Agar has asserted: "Those who work for the state have secrets they carry to their graves." Both men are members of the True Path Party and have maintained close ties to its leader, Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller. Mrs. Ciller was prime minister from 1993 to 1996, when many "mystery killings" took place.

At a news conference Friday at which the commission report was made public, the commission chairman, Mehmet Elkatmis, said Mrs. Ciller had to bear some responsibility for the crimes.

"There is dirty money, smuggling, terror, and an international dimension," Mr. Elkatmis said. "People mentioned in security reports as having links to the mafia have been promoted to the most important positions. These people have even become ministers."

In presenting the report, Mr. Elkatmis said his commission, which deliberated for more than four months, had been denied access to many government documents on the ground that they included state secrets or "commercial secrets."

"We could not prepare the report as we wished, because our authority was restricted," Mr. Elkatmis said.

Opposition members of the investigating commission refused to take part in its final meetings to protest what they said were gaping failures in its agenda. They were especially angered that the commission voted not to summon Mrs. Ciller or her husband, Ozer Ciller. Mrs. Ciller has denied any wrongdoing.

Five of the nine commission members were from Mrs. Ciller's party and its coalition partner, the Welfare Party, headed by Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan.

The investigation ground to an effective halt last month after the panel summoned the commander of the powerful rural police force known as the Gendarmerie. The commander, General Teoman Koman, refused to appear. His refusal was taken as a sign that the military did not want the possible involvement of top officers in the scandal to be investigated.

A former interior minister, Mehmet Saglam, told the commission that the National Security Council, which is made up of top military and civilian leaders, had approved the use of extralegal measures. "I took initiatives under decisions made by the council," Mr. Saglam said.

The report said that the use of gunmen to carry out killings on behalf of the government began after the 1980 military coup, and that Kurdish nationalists were among the victims. It said the gunmen used their official connections to cover drug smuggling, money laundering and the killing of business rivals.

According to the report, the convicted smuggler killed in the November car crash, Abdullah Catli, held 13 passports in various names, all issued on orders from senior government officials. Warrants for his arrest had been issued by Interpol and by the Turkish police, which suspected him of carrying out a 1978 killing of seven leftist students in Ankara.

The report also said that village guards, who are used by the military as an auxiliary to help fight Kurdish rebels, have been involved in crimes.

Tekee Tanwar/Agence France-Presse

Charles Sobhraj, who served 20 years in Indian jails, as he boarded a plane in New Delhi.

Paris Charges Deported 'Serpent'

Agence France-Presse

PARIS — Charles Sobhraj, a French citizen who spent 20 years in Indian jails, was charged with poisoning Tuesday but was not detained, his lawyer said.

The charges that he tried to poison a French citizen in India were brought the same day that Mr. Sobhraj, 52, arrived in France after being deported from New Delhi.

The police arrested him as soon as he arrived aboard an Air France flight and took him to police headquarters in Nanterre to question him in connection with the 10-year-old poisoning complaint, judicial sources said.

Mr. Sobhraj, who has been linked to several unsolved murders in India in the 1970s and is known as the "Serpent," was fined in India for the poisoning case. His alleged victim recovered, but lodged a complaint with French authorities.

Mr. Sobhraj was not immediately allowed to meet his lawyer, Jacques Verges, who defended the Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie and the international terrorist Carlos. Mr. Verges called his client's arrest "dangerous and arbitrary."

Mr. Sobhraj was released from jail in New Delhi in February after being convicted for manslaughter and for drugging and robbing tourists in 1976. He was ordered deported to France, but officials blocked his deportation while they checked if Mr. Sobhraj, who was born in Saigon, was a French citizen.

EU Parliament Calls for a Ban On Altered Corn

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STRASBOURG — The European Parliament on Tuesday overwhelmingly voted to recommend an end to the sale of genetically altered corn in the 15-nation European Union.

By a vote of 407 in favor, 2 against, and 19 abstentions, the Parliament called on the European Commission, the EU's executive body, to suspend an authorization for imports of the grain, which was granted last December to the Swiss company Ciba-Geigy.

Resolutions by the Parliament are not binding on the commission.

Farmers, environmentalists and consumer groups have protested the imports, which largely come from the United States, contending that the corn has not been adequately tested for safety.

The Parliament's call for ending the corn sales comes as U.S. and EU officials prepare to meet in Washington next week to discuss EU regulations for genetically altered food products.

The Parliament's Green group welcomed Tuesday's vote, saying that the commission had acted against the wishes of member states by allowing the sale of the corn.

The resolution also calls on the commission to re-examine the safety of genetically altered food products. Austria and Luxembourg already have banned the corn imports, saying the herbicides and antibiotic-resistant chemicals used to produce it have not been sufficiently tested.

France banned the cultivation of genetically modified corn last February, but is allowing it to be imported with special labeling.

During a debate Monday, European parliamentarians accused the commission of making the same mistakes with genetically modified organisms as it had with "mad cow" disease, putting the interests of industry ahead of food safety and environmental protection.

Consumer concern in Europe about food safety has grown since last year's outbreak of mad cow disease, a fatal brain-wasting condition in cattle, and its perceived mishandling by Britain and the commission. *(AP, Reuters)*

BRIEFLY

Cyprus Cabinet Reshuffle

NICOSIA — The Cyprus cabinet resigned Tuesday to enable a government reshuffle 10 months before the latest possible date for presidential elections.

The new composition of the center-right government will be announced later, said a government spokesman, Yiannakis Cassoulides.

He described the reshuffle as an act of "renewal," and did not link it to any need by the government to spruce up its image to bolster President Glavcos Klerides's chances for re-election next year, if he decides to run again.

"It is a political deed," Mr. Cassoulides said. "Governments are reshuffled to provide a breath of fresh air, a new image."

It is the first cabinet shake-up since Mr. Klerides, founder of the rightist Democratic Rally party, was elected president for a five-year term in February 1993.

Mr. Klerides's Greek Cypriot administration is recognized as the only legitimate government in Cyprus, which has been divided since Turkey invaded the north of the island in 1974. *(Reuters)*

Tax Reform Talks in Bonn

BONN — Leaders of the governing center-right coalition and of the Social Democrat opposition are to hold new negotiations on tax reform in Bonn next Tuesday, the Social Democratic Party said Tuesday.

The talks will be held in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's offices.

A first meeting of the two sides aimed at agreeing on tax cuts took place Feb. 24, but the talks were broken off after a second meeting, March 7. *(AFP)*

Vote on EU Rights Record

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament narrowly approved a report Tuesday criticizing the European Union's human rights record, with the legislature's leftist and rightist parties squaring off over individual liberties.

Parliament approved the document presented by its Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs by a vote of 174 to 166, with 66 abstentions.

The report offered a broad range of issues to be included under the umbrella of human rights — opposition to euthanasia, the right to a clean environment, and the need to safeguarding personal information on the Internet.

Among the alleged human rights deficiencies cited are the use of euthanasia in the Netherlands, the export of arms by Germany to Turkey, and the imprisonment by Greece of conscientious objectors to military service. *(AP)*

IRA Claims Aintree Scare

DUBLIN — The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility Tuesday for the false bomb warnings that disrupted the Grand National steeplechase last weekend.

The IRA was widely assumed to be responsible for the two coded telephone warnings that led police to evacuate 70,000 racing fans from the Aintree racecourse, near Liverpool, half an hour before the start of the race Saturday.

The race was rescheduled and run amid tight security Monday.

The IRA's claim was made in a telephone call to RTE, Ireland's state broadcasting service. The caller used a recognized code word, RTE said.

While the IRA usually admits responsibility for attacks, it is unusual for it to admit responsibility for a hoax.

Police investigating the bomb warnings said Tuesday they were examining a telephone booth outside a restaurant in Liverpool that might have been used for the hoax warning.

Meanwhile, a 14-year-old boy was charged with placing a fake explosive device in a park in Liverpool minutes after the conclusion of the rescheduled race. *(AP)*

Sean Dempsey/Agence France-Presse

ALL SMILES — Tony Blair, right, leader of Britain's opposition Labour Party, pressing the flesh Tuesday in Essex, England. Elections are set for May 1.

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INTERNATIONAL

Rebel Sets Next Goal: Capture of Kinshasa

Kabila Rules Out Any Role for Mobutu; Government Radio Says No. 2 City Is Lost

By Howard W. French
New York Times Service

KINSHASA, Zaire — Addressing a jubilant crowd in the diamond-mining capital of central Zaire, the leader of this country's rebellion ruled out Tuesday a power-sharing agreement with the government and promised to quickly train his guns on the capital, Kinshasa.

Speaking before a crowd of tens of thousands at the site of his movement's latest major victory, Mbuji-Mayi, the rebel leader, Laurent Kabila, ruled out any future role for the country's longtime dictator, Mobutu Sese Seko, and urged another of his prime rivals for power, the newly named prime minister, to "to leave the Mobutu camp."

Confident after having seized the center of Zaire's lucrative diamond industry last weekend, and encircling Lubumbashi, the capital of the country's southern copper belt, Mr. Kabila vowed to speed up his bid for power.

"Our next objective is the capital, Kinshasa," Mr. Kabila told the rally in Mbuji-Mayi. "All of the evil in this country is decided in Kinshasa." Mr. Kabila heads the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of the Congo (Zaire).

With an estimated $20 million in official monthly receipts for diamonds and with far more money believed to be made through the black market trade, Mbuji-Mayi is Zaire's richest source of hard currency and represents a huge economic boost for the rebellion.

For the second consecutive day, Kinshasa, was the scene of rowdy street protests by supporters of Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi, who attacked the homes and vehicles of members of Parliament who have begun efforts to unseat him less than a week after he was chosen as prime minister.

At least one member of Parliament was beaten by a street mob, and a former minister of Marshal Mobutu's was dragged from his car, robbed and beaten near Parliament after he was mistaken for a legislator.

Mr. Tshisekedi, a longtime political opponent of Marshal Mobutu, was returned to the office of prime minister for the third time last week in an effort by both political supporters and enemies of Mr. Mobutu to blunt the rebel advance by handing the government to a popular politician.

Mr. Tshisekedi quickly enraged the political class here, however, by dissolving Parliament in a decree of dubious legality and naming a government that excluded Marshal Mobutu's allies.

Supporters of Mr. Tshisekedi's have vowed to mount a huge demonstration here Wednesday in which they say they will seat the prime minister's government.

Mr. Kabila's threat to take the capital came as his troops closed in on Lubumbashi, 1,500 kilometers to the southeast, where units of Marshal Mobutu's Presidential Guard were reported to be offering sporadic resistance.

While officers of the Presidential Guard claimed to have prevailed in several skirmishes with the rebels, Western diplomats gave them little chance of holding out. And in an unusual announcement, state radio in Kinshasa said that Lubumbashi, the second-largest city, would fall in "a matter of hours."

Throughout Zaire's six-month civil war, government troops have typically fled at the approach of Mr. Kabila's forces, pillaging each city as they flee.

Perhaps to assure a measure of dignity in peace talks held in recent days in South Africa, the government sent loyalist units of the Presidential Guard, a heavily armed and relatively well-trained force that is drawn almost exclusively from Marshal Mobutu's northern Ngbandi tribe, to mount a symbolic defense of Lubumbashi.

"They will put up a show, perhaps, but the city is basically undefendable at this point," a military expert said.

Although its mineral production has declined to a small fraction of capacity because of years of mismanagement and neglect, the copperbelt around Lubumbashi boasts 10 percent of the world's known reserves of copper and 80 percent of cobalt deposits.

Coming fast on the heels of Kisangani and Mbuji-Mayi, Lubumbashi's fall would mean that Kinshasa would be the only remaining major city in government control. Mr. Kabila now claims that his fighters have advanced deep into two of the remaining four provinces that have escaped their control, including Mr. Mobutu's fief of Equateur.

The peace talks in South Africa were adjourned indefinitely Tuesday, without agreement on a cease-fire, ostensibly to allow each side to consult with its leaders. While diplomats reported constructive discussions on questions like future elections in the country, the talks are fundamentally stalled over the rebels' insistence that Marshal Mobutu, who has ruled Zaire for 31 years, immediately step down.

Corinne Dufka/Reuters
Diamond sellers in rebel-held Kisangani waiting Tuesday to enter the town's only operating diamond concession.

UN Warns of Delay for Zaire Airlift

Reuters

KISANGANI, Zaire — The UN refugee agency said Tuesday that preparations to fly 100,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees home from eastern Zaire could take as long as 10 days.

Paul Stromberg, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said the first to be flown out would be children, followed by adults healthy enough to travel.

"It's still going to take a week or 10 days before the start of the airlift," Mr. Stromberg said. "In the meantime we will care for the refugees." He added that fuel shortages in Kisangani and in the border city of Goma were slowing the operation.

"The planes will require fuel and the whole logistical operation to be in place before the airlift starts," he said.

"We need planes," the spokesman added, "a way to add to the transport across the river to bring the refugees up to Kisangani and then simply more trucks, as the train is irregular at best."

On Saturday, after 48 hours of high-level international pressure, the United Nations extracted an agreement from the Zairean rebel leader, Laurent Kabila, to allow the refugees to fly home via Kisangani.

Mr. Stromberg said he was still waiting to hear whether Rwanda's government would allow the planes to land. He said the first flights might be to Goma or to Bukavu, a Zairian town to the south.

Many of the Hutu refugees, who ended up south of Kisangani after six months of fleeing the Tutsi-dominated rebels, are from southwestern Rwanda near Bukavu. They left Rwanda in 1994.

U.S. Alleges Plot to Attack Gulf Troops

By Elaine Sciolino
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The United States has uncovered the outlines of a terrorist plan by dissidents in Bahrain to attack American troops stationed in the country and has put its forces there on alert, government officials report.

The U.S. Navy has limited the movements of all forces stationed in Bahrain and has canceled shore leave for American sailors in the Gulf, the officials said.

The decision puts the 1,000 military personnel stationed in Bahrain on a higher state of alert and bans the 12,000 American sailors in the Gulf from visiting the country, the officials said.

At least one plan by members of Bahrain's Shiite Hezbollah, or Party of God, to attack U.S. military personnel has been detected in the last few days, they said. Hezbollah is opposed to the Sunni-led government and the permanent U.S. military presence.

Although the United States has not uncovered a plot with a date and location, a Pentagon official described the plan as "serious."

The navy has maintained military arrangements with Bahrain for nearly half a century, and the United States Fifth Fleet's administrative headquarters — with about 1,000 personnel — is situated on a 20-acre (8-hectare) site outside the capital, Manama.

Until further notice, clubs, bars and restaurants on the island nation will be off-limits to all U.S. military personnel.

The navy's decision, which took effect over the weekend, also prompted a security alert Monday on the U.S. Embassy's citizens' hot line recommending that all Americans avoid certain public places in Bahrain.

For more than three years, Bahrain has been racked by unrest sparked by the country's Shiite Muslim majority, which demanded the restoration of Parliament.

But the dissidents have never attacked Americans, and no demonstrations have been directed against the U.S. base.

Since the bombing of an U.S. military installation near Dhahran in Saudi Arabia in June that killed 19 Americans, the navy has stepped up security at the Bahrain base, including stationing Marine guards there for the first time and expanding the perimeter of the complex.

One reason for the current concern is the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia, which begins Tuesday and will bring 2 million Muslims to the kingdom. That will allow potential terrorists more opportunity to enter Bahrain via nearby Saudi Arabia.

BRIEFLY

New Massacre of 13 Reported in Algeria

ALGIERS — Muslim militants raided a village in western Algeria, slitting the throats of 13 people, including an elderly man and three children, the victims' relatives said Tuesday.

The slayings were the latest in a surge of massacres as the government prepares for June parliamentary elections amid a five-year-old Islamist insurgency.

The militants descended on Merchiche, near Tlemcen, overnight Sunday, demanding food, clothes, money and volunteers, the relatives said, speaking on condition of anonymity. When villagers refused to cooperate, the militants killed 13 people. *(AP)*

U.S. Judge Rejects Hamas Chief's Bid

NEW YORK — A federal judge has dismissed a request by the Hamas leader Mousa Abu Marzook to be released from jail or deported.

Judge Denise Cote said Monday she has no jurisdiction over the case because Israel withdrew its request to extradite the leader of the political wing of the terrorist group. Mr. Abu Marzook, who has been jailed since July 1995, is now being held on an Immigration and Naturalization Service order.

Mr. Abu Marzook's lawyer, Michael Kennedy, said the immigration service is holding his client until a deportation hearing. He said Mr. Abu Marzook is willing to leave but the government will not let him unless he admits he is a terrorist. "We're saying he's being illegally detained by the U.S. government," Mr. Kennedy said. "My client is consenting to expulsion." *(AP)*

Brazil Establishes Rights Watchdog

BRASILIA — Brazil has set up a watchdog body to oversee human rights following public outrage over police brutality. News of the new group came hours before Globo Television broadcast more videotape showing the police beating a group of men with belts and a large piece of wood.

Officials said President Fernando Henrique Cardoso had signed a decree establishing the National Human Rights Secretariat and had also approved a bill, recently passed by Congress, that makes torture a crime for the first time.

The videotape footage last week showed Sao Paulo military police beating civilians, extorting money and allegedly killing a man. Ten officers have been arrested and charged. *(Reuters)*

ALBANIA: *Waiting for the Peace Force*

Continued from Page 1

fishing boat being refitted for another refugee run. About 13,000 Albanians already have fled to Italy.

In a nearby schoolhouse, a meeting of the self-nominated National Salvation Committee drew up its latest demands that the government compensate investors for their lost savings. Suddenly, a troop of "police auxiliaries" burst into the room. They wore camouflage uniforms and carried AK-47 Kalashnikov assault rifles but had no official insignia nor any inclination to say for whom they worked.

"We heard there was someone from government TV here," the leader said unapologetically as he eyed an Italian television crew. "Fortunately for you, you're not them."

Inside the burned-out city hall at the end of the coastal road, Finance Minister Arben Malaj met with local leaders to convince them that the government is on its way to working out a refund for the investors. Outside the meeting, an irate Albanian screamed a phrase that seems to be universally known here in Italian: "Up yours! Up yours!"

How long this nervous state can last without exploding is anyone's guess. Last month, mobs looted not only military warehouses throughout the country but also businesses and granaries. The outburst followed the collapse of the extremely high-risk pyramid investment schemes.

Although the revolt is fractured and without clear leadership, a common demand is the resignation of President Sali Berisha. He is blamed by many for tolerating the operation of unsound investment companies and widely resented for overseeing abuses of civil rights over the past year.

With Mr. Berisha's Democratic Party and the opposition Socialists jockeying for tactical advantage, the chances of a quick political solution appear slim. Mr. Berisha is hunkered down in the capital, Tirana, where he issues communiqués blaming the crisis on Socialist politicians whom he considers to be unreformed Communists trying to ride unrest to power.

Mr. Berisha dominates the remnants of the national police force, which are concentrated in Tirana and some towns in northern Albania. He holds the reins of the secret police, which, although officially disbanded, continues to operate, according to Western diplomats.

Mr. Berisha also controls state television, which presents the calm face of a propped-up government. No independent newspapers are permitted to publish, only the mouthpieces of political parties.

New parliamentary elections are scheduled for the end of June, and opposition leaders hope the results will weaken Mr. Berisha and perhaps lead to his ouster. But fraud has marred the past two elections in Albania, and with the country unsettled, a clean vote may not be possible.

Last month, Mr. Berisha appointed a national reconciliation cabinet, under Prime Minister Bashkim Fino, a Socialist. But Mr. Berisha seems not to trust his own creation. Last week, after new ministers met with rebels in Vlore, he issued a statement asking whether they were siding with the "legitimate government" or with "Communist rebels that want to overthrow the government."

ITALY: *Albania Fight Threatens Prodi*

Continued from Page 1

which clearly says 'Yes' to the mission," said Gianfranco Fini, leader of the hard-right National Alliance, and an ally of Mr. Berlusconi.

The political crisis has been slowly building ever since Fausto Bertinotti, the leader of the Refounded Communist Party, declared categorically that his party would not support sending Italian troops to Albania.

The Communists have argued that the multinational force would shore up support for Albania's rightist President Sali Berisha, whose increasingly authoritarian rule has come under strong criticism here.

In fact, it was the suggestion by a leading Foreign Ministry official Tuesday that Italy was no longer willing to back Mr. Berisha, that caused the rightist opposition to back off its earlier pledge to support the government's deployment proposal.

The remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister Piero Fassino drew a strong rebuke from Tirana, which characterized them as unacceptable interference in Albania's internal affairs. Mr. Berlusconi said Mr. Fassino's public shift away from Mr. Berisha could put Italian troops in danger.

"Things like this expose our boys to greater risks," Mr. Berlusconi said.

The exchange of political charges and countercharges has erupted at a delicate moment for Italy, as commentators and politicians argue over whether this country has the political stamina and courage to take command of a multinational force. From the start of the crisis in Albania, Italy has taken the lead in pressing its European partners to keep the Balkan country from spinning out of control.

Prompted by an exodus of 13,000 Albanians across the Adriatic Sea in rickety boats toward Italian shores and alarmed by the drowning of several dozen people in a vessel that sank over the Easter weekend, Italy has seen the restoration of order in Albania as a vital national interest, one that, until Tuesday, enjoyed support from a broad political spectrum.

MIDEAST: *Politics Bind Clinton and Netanyahu in Discussions*

Continued from Page 1

with Israeli prime ministers without very good reason and that the Democratic Party, despite the fund-raising scandal, has a significant debt that conservative American Jews are being relied on to help retire.

Washington is not now prepared to spend the domestic political capital required to try to impose a Mideast solution on a conservative Likud government that has legitimate concerns about a renewal of Palestinian terrorism at home.

So Mr. Clinton made it clear to Mr. Netanyahu in their talks — which were intensive and serious, officials say, but not antagonistic — that bold efforts at fundamental dialogue made no sense at a moment when the Israelis and Palestinians did not even trust each other enough to talk about minor issues.

The most important goal now, U.S. officials say, is to get Mr. Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, to trust each other enough to talk at all.

So the Americans will talk to Palestinian officials this week and then the Israelis again and then send Mr. Clinton's special Middle East envoy, Dennis Ross, back to the region next week, U.S. officials say.

To get these talks going, Mr. Clinton will press Mr. Arafat to repeat and display the absolute commitment to fight terrorism that Mr. Netanyahu demands to rebuild Israeli confidence.

But in return, Mr. Netanyahu should move very quickly "to show Palestinians the benefits of peace and to prove the seriousness of his intentions," an American official said.

U.S. ideas and "very strong suggestions" include rapid Israeli construction of Arab housing in East Jerusalem, a quiet Israeli agreement not to create unilateral "facts on the ground" in disputed areas while peace talks are under way and an Israeli offer to negotiate with the Palestinians, ahead of time, the size of the next Israeli troop redeployment from the West Bank, required in September, rather than deciding it unilaterally.

The Americans also pressed Mr. Netanyahu to move quickly to settle and implement the list of issues in the second protocol signed at the Hebron agreement in January, including opening the Gaza airport, making available port facilities for the faster transit of goods and services in and out of the Palestinian Authority, providing safe passage for Palestinians between Gaza and the West Bank, and allowing more Palestinians to travel in and out of Israel to work.

Mr. Netanyahu also promised, as the Americans insisted, that should accelerated final-status talks take place, they will not supersede the previous Oslo agreements and guarantees.

This was one of the Palestinians' major concerns.

Privately, U.S. officials say Mr. Netanyahu got the message.

But his own domestic political situation requires the kind of belligerence and even defensiveness he displayed in his public appearances, blasting the Palestinians as violators of their promises, criticizing the U.S. press for its alleged bias against Israel and claiming that by supporting the Oslo agreements, he faced severe criticism at home.

Mr. Netanyahu does face such criticism, but largely for his reactiveness and lack of clear direction, which is why he is pushing the idea of a six-month negotiation and the formation of a unity government, together with the Labor Party, to broaden his effective mandate.

ISRAEL: *3 Palestinians Killed in Hebron*

Continued from Page 1

senior Palestinian official in Jerusalem, asked whether Mr. Netanyahu had given a "green light" to settler violence, echoing the Israeli prime minister's charge that Mr. Arafat had given a go-ahead for terrorism against Israel.

The shooting in Hebron was the second by a settler in as many days.

On Monday, a settler shot and seriously wounded a Palestinian in the West Bank village of Kharabata, reportedly after the settler's car was stoned.

The settlers involved in the incident Tuesday were students at the Shavei Hevron Yeshiva, a religious seminary where about 200 pupils study in a heavily guarded compound near other Jewish enclaves in the heart of Hebron.

Two students, who carried Uzi submachine guns issued by the army for their protection, were walking on a road leading to the Tomb of the Patriarchs when at least one of them opened fire, killing the Palestinian. They told police investigators that they acted in self-defense after the Palestinian sprayed them with a chemical substance.

"The investigation shows that they were indeed attacked," said General Yossi Satbon, the chief of the Israeli police in the West Bank.

"The findings and burn marks on their faces indicate that indeed someone sprayed them with tear gas or another substance whose nature we still don't know. We're still checking whether the shooting was justified." The students were held for questioning by the police.

But Palestinians who said they witnessed the incident asserted that the shooting was unprovoked.

Omar Zarou, who said he had watched from his store, reported that one of the settlers first bumped into the Palestinian and the second opened fire, shooting the man again after he had fallen to the ground.

RIOTS: *Ethnic Intolerance*

Continued from Page 1

those outbreaks, though none were reported dead in Rengasdengklok.

The violence has been aimed mostly at two minority groups in this overwhelmingly Muslim and ethnic Malay nation: Christians and Chinese.

The Chinese minority, about 2 percent of the population, controls as much as four-fifths of the private economy and has for years been the target of animosity and periodic violence here in the world's largest Muslim country. Christianity is also viewed as a symbol of wealth in parts of Indonesia.

"Amok is a Malay word," said a political scientist, Dewi Fortuna Anwar, in describing her compatriots' predilection for outbursts of violence.

But nobody here in this town of 36,000 seemed to be able to explain how a quarrel between neighbors could explode so suddenly into widespread destruction.

"People were saying a Muslim prayer house had been attacked with stones or torn down," said the public school principal, Weskomi, who like many Indonesians uses only one name. "The emotions of young people were aroused. They felt they had to take action."

Mr. Cuang, the merchant, and his family fled, and soon their home was a ruin.

"I've lived here for 35 years, and we always felt secure," said Roria Mulyani, another Chinese merchant. "The Muslim people here have always been good. Now we stay very quiet. We don't say anything at all."

HUNGER: *As North Korean Famine Intensifies, Grain Deal Sealed*

Continued from Page 1

financial terms for the sale. The United States has a trade embargo against the Communist nation, but allows the sale of humanitarian items on a case-by-case basis.

In Seoul, traders close to the deal said Tuesday that North Korea had agreed to barter about 4,000 metric tons of zinc for about 20,000 tons of wheat. Traders valued the wheat shipment at about $4 million, roughly equal to the value of the zinc.

Representative Tony Hall, Democrat of Ohio, speaking in Tokyo after a three-day visit to North Korea, said that "evidence of slow starvation on a massive scale was plain wherever we made an effort to look."

Mr. Hall added that conditions had deteriorated significantly since he made a similar visit last August.

The congressman said he was allowed unlimited access to villages north of the capital where few outsiders are ever permitted. He said he met an elderly woman making soup from year-old cabbage leaves; visited an unheated hospital with no medicine; and saw "shockingly underweight" children, many of whom were orphaned when their mothers died from malnutrition.

His bleak assessment mirrors those of the relatively small number of others who have been allowed to visit.

On Tuesday, a UN World Food Program official in Geneva, Christiane Berthiaume, said, "The World Food Program has reached the conclusion that famine is virtually inevitable in North Korea in the next few months."

Some observers of North Korea have suggested that food aid is the smartest course to follow because starvation could lead to instability, which could increase the chances of some desperate military action. Others argue that a popular uprising is unlikely because of the cult-like following President Kim Jong Il has inherited from his late father, Kim Il Sung.

The grain deal was struck in Beijing last Saturday, traders said.

A Cargill spokeswoman, Lori Johnson, said the company was operating under a license it received from the U.S. Treasury Department in December.

Cargill's license constitutes an exception to the strict U.S. embargo on North Korea. The last time Washington made such an exception was in March last year, when U.S. officials eased "trading with the enemy" laws to allow private citizens to send money for food, clothing, and medicine to North Korea.

The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili, met his South Korean counterpart, Yoon Yong Nam, on Tuesday to discuss the threat from North Korea as it grapples with its food crisis, a Seoul military official said. *(AFP, Reuters, WP)*

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LEGAL NOTICE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MERRILL, LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED,
Plaintiff,
– against –
BANCO INTERNATIONAL S.A.; SWISS UNION SERVICES LTD.; ABEL COSTA; GRACE AVIGDOR; D. SALMON; WHOLESALERS' INTERNATIONAL; ASAKO YOKOMURA, a/k/a ASAKO ALUBOWICZ; VORTEX INTERNATIONAL TRUST, INC.; JEFFREY YOKOMURA; HENRY ALUBOWICZ; ROMEO MILES; MB TRUST; SOLER PROMOTION S.A.; ANTOINE SOLER; MICHEL HAMMELIN; SARL T.T.B.M.; SYLVAIN GALLEA; MICKAEL LUCAS; SARL D.A. TUFFERY; REMI TUFFERY; PIERRETTE TUFFERY; BERNARD WIRTH; JACQUES DERRIER; LOUIS DELAUNEY; SA JCM INDUSTRIE; JEAN-CLAUDE MOREL; SERGE SAVIDAN; CLAUDE DUDEFAND; SARL AGRILIX; MICHEL DESCAMPS; SCI BELLE ALLÉE; M. BACQUET; RENE LABORDE; ELIETTE VIOLLE; ALAIN VIOLLE; LILIANE SPENNATO; DANIEL IENNE; KEIL ENCONTRE, a/k/a Kiel; JEAN-PAUL KEIL; ODDO ET CIE; PHOENIX KAPITALDIENST; ECOMARCHE SA JEPLAR; MANUEL DE CARVALHO; JEAN-CLAUDE VEDRINE; MARIE-FRANCOISE ANTOINETTE MOURICETTE BON; BERNARD BROUSTINE; CHERIF HADJEB; SERGE EMERY; MAURICE-CLAUDE RIBES; JEAN-CLAUDE MARIE TEISSEIRE; PATRICK BOUE; CHRISTIAN HERVE RICARD; EUROPEAN TRADERS INVESTMENT GUARANTY; REGIS LEROY; EURL POGA; ANDRE DERRIER, d/b/a ANDRE DERRIER CONSULTANT; PRO VANTAGE ONE INTERNATIONAL; TOM KISER; ANNE RICARD; KARINE POITRAT; MS. GIELY (first name unknown); JOCELYNE JOUFFROY; GUY TAVET; ALAIN BASSE; SERGE DUMONT; and JOHN DOES 1-3,
Defendants.

No. 96 Civ. 9589(RWS)

ORDER PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1655 DIRECTING ALL DEFENDANTS TO APPEAR OR PLEAD

Upon the annexed affidavit of Michael C. Silberberg (the "Silberberg Affidavit"), and it appearing that none of the defendants in this action can be served within the State of New York and that plaintiff Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, despite due diligence, is unable to ascertain the addresses of those defendants listed in Exhibit B to the Silberberg Affidavit, and for good cause shown, it is hereby

ORDERED that each defendant listed in Exhibit A to the Silberberg Affidavit shall be served with this order and the complaint in this action in accordance with the requirements of Rule 4(e) or (f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, as applicable; and it is further

ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1655, each defendant listed in Exhibit A to the Silberberg Affidavit shall appear or plead in this action no later than sixty (60) days after this order has been served upon such defendant; and it is further

ORDERED that the defendants listed in Exhibit B to the Silberberg Affidavit shall be served by publication of this order, excluding Exhibit A to the Silberberg Affidavit, in the European version of the International Herald Tribune, not less than once a week for a period of six consecutive weeks (the "Publication Period"); and it is further

ORDERED that the defendants listed in Exhibit B to the Silberberg Affidavit shall appear or plead in this action no later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the Publication Period.

Dated: 1-15-97

(signature of Hon. Robert W. Sweet)
United States District Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MERRILL, LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED,
Plaintiff,
– against –
BANCO INTERNATIONAL S.A. et al.
Defendants.

No. 96 Civ. 9589(RWS)

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF EX PARTE MOTION FOR ORDER DIRECTING ALL DEFENDANTS TO APPEAR OR PLEAD

MICHAEL C. SILBERBERG, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am an attorney duly admitted to practice before this Court, representing plaintiff Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill Lynch") in the above-captioned action. I make this affidavit in support of Merrill Lynch's ex-parte motion for an order, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1655, directing the defendants to appear or plead in this action no later than sixty (60) days after service of the order upon them, and to authorize service by publication on six European defendants, including four French nationals, whose addresses, despite due diligence, cannot be ascertained.

2. As more particularly described in the Complaint for Interpleader and Declaratory Relief ("Complaint"), Merrill Lynch is in possession of three interest-bearing accounts in this district, containing an aggregate of approximately $2,277,143.13. The activities in the three accounts, including discrepancies between the identities of persons and entities who had deposited funds and those to whom the account holders directed Merrill Lynch to transfer the funds, along with other documents which came to Merrill Lynch's attention, caused concerns by Merrill Lynch of possible fraud and/or money laundering in connection with the accounts. Merrill Lynch has accordingly brought this interpleader action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1335 and 1655, to resolve the conflicting claims and remove the cloud upon this title of the funds in the accounts.

3. As alleged in the Complaint, all of the defendants have transacted business in the state of New York, either personally or through an agent, such that personal jurisdiction over them is appropriate. See Complaint, ¶ 3. However, none of the defendants can be served within the State of New York. Accordingly, Merrill Lynch requests an order, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1655, directing the defendants to appear or plead no later than sixty days after service of the order is effected (the "warning order"). Such an order may be served on the defendants wherever found.

4. Merrill Lynch has located all of the domestic defendants and most of the foreign defendants; those defendants whom Merrill Lynch has located are listed in Exhibit A hereto. Merrill Lynch intends to serve the domestic defendants with the warning order, accompanied by a summons and a copy of the Complaint, in accordance with Fed. R.Civ.P.4 (e) and (h). Merrill Lynch intends to serve the foreign defendants whom it has located in accordance with applicable international treaties or local law, as required by Fed.R.Civ.P.4(i).

5. Upon information and belief, each of the defendants listed in Exhibit B hereto resides in Europe; most reside in France. See Exhibit B. Merrill Lynch has attempted to locate the addresses of these defendants through reasonable and diligent investigation. I am informed that this investigation included the efforts of Merrill Lynch's French counsel, who exhaustively searched European national and local directories of corporations and individuals. I am further informed that this investigation included the efforts of Merrill Lynch's in-house attorneys, who exhaustively searched European corporate directories. After this diligent investigation, Merrill Lynch has been unable to locate the defendants listed in Exhibit B.

6. Because personal service on the defendants listed in Exhibit B is impracticable, Merrill Lynch respectfully requests permission, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1655, to serve these defendants by publishing the warning order once a week for six consecutive weeks (the "Publication Period"), in the New York Law Journal and the European version of the International Herald Tribune.

7. With respect to the defendants listed in Exhibit B, Merrill Lynch requests that the warning order direct them to plead or appear no later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the Publication Period.

8. No previous request for this or similar relief has been made.

(signature of Michael C. Silberberg, Esq.)
Michael C. Silberberg

Sworn to before me this 23rd day of December, 1996
(signature of notary public)
Notary Public
(stamp of notary public)

Exhibit B to Affidavit of Michael C. Silberberg
1. John Doe 1, John Doe 2 and John Doe 3; Principal Residences in France.
2. Michel Hammelin; Principal Residence in France.
3. Phoenix Kapitaldienst; Principal Place of Business in Europe.
4. Ecomarche SA Jeplar; Principal Place of Business in Europe.
5. Jean-Claude Vedrine; Principal Residence in France.
6. Cherif Hadjeb; Principal Residence in France.
7. Serge Dumont; Principal Residence in France.

Defendants wishing to obtain a copy of the Complaint in this action should contact one of the following: (1) Maitre Jean-Marie Bergouberdit, Gide Loyrette Nouel, 26 Cours Albert 1er, 75008 Paris, France; (2) Michael C. Silberberg, Esq., Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason & Silberberg, P.C., 565 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10017; or (3) The United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Office of the Clerk of the Court, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York 10007-1312.

This notice was first published March 5, 1997.

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Keep Helping Haiti

Two and a half years after American troops intervened to end a murderous dictatorship in Haiti, that country faces daunting troubles. Its ministries are inept, its Parliament paralyzed and its police quick on the trigger. Yet these problems represent progress of a sort. Haiti has gone from a government dedicated to brutality and corruption to one of inexperience and incompetence. That is a sign that the United States and the international community can best help by staying involved.

President René Préval is not a seasoned leader, but he has tried to be a responsible one. He has pushed through a fractious Parliament a desperately needed program to sell inefficient public enterprises and modernize Haiti's economy. The reforms would not only qualify Haiti for international funds that have been held back, they would also begin to lift the economy and help Haiti's poor.

The reforms have been blocked largely by Mr. Préval's political mentor, the only man in Haiti with a real political base, former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Mr. Aristide in the past has spoken for Haiti's people, but his role now is negative. His supporters have brought parliamentary action to a standstill. Ironically, he is joined in his opposition to economic reform by some members of Haiti's elite, who have grown rich from the monopolies they hold in the protected economy. But Mr. Aristide's opposition also shows that Haiti is in no danger of becoming a one-party dictatorship. A political split over economic policy is an appropriate disagreement in a democracy.

The abuses by the new National Police are extremely serious. In the 21 months since the United States established the force, police have killed about 50 Haitians. The police must be held accountable for these crimes. The government is beginning to do that. The police's inspector general is investigating the killings. Most of those accused have been fired, and some are in jail. This is one reason that the murders do not justify a cutoff of U.S. aid and training. The violence has not been the result of a deliberate policy, as were the thousand murders each year committed by the most recent dictatorship.

The police need more training, resources and leadership. A related problem is Haiti's virtually nonexistent justice system. The Clinton administration considers the building of a justice system a top priority. But reform efforts have been hurt by an overly centralized program that slights the realities of Haiti's largely rural courts.

For a few more months, Haiti could use the security and scrutiny provided by the 1,300 international troops remaining in the country. Some are due to leave in July, but Canada, which has 750 troops there, has said it will try to stay until the end of the year. The other troops should stay, too.

If Haiti is to be able to feed itself and break the habits that come from centuries of occupation, dictatorship and mismanagement, it will likely need economic and technical help for years. It deserves such help. Haiti still faces serious problems, but thanks to the United States and other countries it is now a democracy with a government committed to solving them.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Syria Caught in the Act

This is as close as anyone is likely to get to catching Syria, an old player, in the act of being a party to terrorism.

The Saudis had asked Syria to apprehend a Saudi who was living in Syrian-controlled Lebanon and was suspected of involvement in a bombing in Saudi Arabia that killed five Americans and two others. So reported Thomas Lippman and David Ottaway of The Washington Post (*IHT, April 7*). The Syrians, however, weighing their ties with Saudi Arabia, put a higher value on Hezbollah for its struggle against Israel in southern Lebanon, and declined to tempt a military confrontation over the suspect, Ahmed Ibrahim Mughassil.

Subsequently, a truck bomb in the Saudi city of Dhahran killed 19 more Americans. The suspected mastermind: Ahmed Ibrahim Mughassil, now believed to be in Iran. He is from Hezbollah, a radical Islamic group supported by Iran as well as Syria.

Syrian officials provided partial confirmation of this account, the Post reporters wrote, because the account shows that Damascus had no role in plotting or carrying out the second bombing. But, of course, if this account holds up, then Syria is admitting that by stepping back and allowing events to unfold without check, it enabled a deadly act of terrorism to occur.

The Saudi dissidents who are held accountable for the two bombings may have done the deed. The governments of Syria and, it seems, Iran could have prevented it and chose not to; chose in fact to help make it happen. Those American military men are no less dead by either path.

Syria and Iran are already both on the U.S government's annually reviewed list of nations that sponsor international terrorism. At a certain point, new crimes of this sort or new reports of these crimes become so familiar as to be greeted by a shrug, not by shock and outrage. But although they may be repeated, they are not "routine." They are violations of the norms of expected individual and state behavior, and civilized people everywhere have a common interest in not blurring the difference.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

A Dawdling Congress

It is far too early to call this a do-nothing Congress, but it certainly has been a done-nothing one so far. The members come back this week from their Easter recess with the year a fourth over and little to show for it. As ever, the main item is the budget, which encompasses much more than just the budget. It requires members of Congress to make health care, education, tax and all kinds of other policy as they work their way toward the fiscal result they seek.

The Republicans have a pretty clear idea of the direction in which they want to go in all these areas, but can't decide how hard to push. In the last Congress, when they pushed too hard for spending, tax and regulatory cuts, it cost them. Do they risk paying such a political price again, or do they water their agenda? Congress, having received the president's budget, is supposed to adopt the broad outline of an alternative by spring so that the committees have time to fill in the details by fall, when the new fiscal year begins.

The Republicans have yet to agree on even such basic aspects of an alternative as whether to include the tax cuts they seek, and how large to make them. Some members want to balance the budget first, then take up tax cuts separately, lest they be accused again of cutting social programs that benefit the needy to finance tax cuts that would mainly benefit the better-off.

Not a great deal is happening outside the framework of the budget, either. Campaign finance is of course an issue, but most of the effort thus far has gone into finding ways not to legislate even while sounding suitably indignant about the runaway fund-raising practices in last year's campaign.

A higher education bill will be debated, but it is expected to be mainly a reauthorization with little change of the existing forms of aid. The action in higher education will be in connection with the budget, where the president has proposed tax cuts that would constitute a major new form of aid.

There also may be a housing bill, and there will be discussion, but probably not much more than that, of utility deregulation. As to environmental legislation, the agenda is anybody's guess. Neither the administration nor the Republicans have made up their minds yet which proposals, if any, to press, whether on endangered species, forest management, clean air, clean water, Superfund or any of the rest. Mostly at this point, they're milling around.

They may yet get untracked, cut a budget deal that does more than temporize and make much other progress. It is always risky to predict how a Congress will behave — and it is also the case that a Congress can only be judged over the full two years of its life. It often takes that long to do the important work. But the first three months have been pretty barren.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

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Israel: A Choice Between Duress and Respect

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — Underlying all the years of conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, there has been a fundamental choice for the two peoples. One side could try to dominate or destroy the other, or they could live side by side with a degree of mutual respect.

For the Palestinians, the first course meant rejection of the very idea of the Jewish state, opposing its superior force by terrorism. The second was the path of compromise, agreeing to live in peace in a mini-state alongside Israel.

For Israel, the first choice meant permanent control of all occupied territory and suppression of its Palestinian inhabitants. The second meant acceptance of Palestinian aspirations for a homeland, negotiating about its nature and territory.

At Oslo, both sides chose the second course, the path of peace. Now that choice is in doubt. The events of recent weeks — unilateral, humiliating actions by the Israeli government, Palestinian protest and terrorism in response — have the menacing ring of atavism.

Benjamin Netanyahu blames it all on Yasser Arafat, who he says gave a "green light" to terrorists. Diplomats on the scene disagree. I do not know exactly what Mr. Arafat did, but I do know this. If Yasser Arafat had been on Elba, Palestinians would have felt the same anger at Mr. Netanyahu's policy.

When Mr. Netanyahu announced that Israel's promised next withdrawal would be from only 2 percent of the West Bank, and decided suddenly to start building homes for 30,000 Jews in East Jerusalem, the Palestinian reaction was predictable. Indeed, Israeli security officials predicted it — violence if the Jerusalem project went ahead. President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt said the same thing.

The Palestinians' reaction was predictable for a simple reason. They saw Mr. Netanyahu's actions, taken without consulting or even informing Mr. Arafat, as a rejection of Oslo. They thought he had chosen the first course: domination instead of mutual respect. They saw his aim as permanent Israeli occupation of most of the West Bank, with just some islands of Palestinian control.

"For 13 months there was no violence because there was hope," said Saeb Arakat, a senior Palestinian negotiator much respected by his Israeli counterparts. "Netanyahu succeeded in taking that hope away."

Some Israelis, and some American supporters of Israel, seem to find it hard to understand why Palestinians should be discontented. For example, they say, Jerusalem under Israeli governance is a united city in which Palestinians are fairly treated.

But anyone who has visited Jerusalem with eyes open knows that in reality it is not a united city. There is a Palestinian sector where few Israelis ever go, a sector poor and starved of public support.

Bernard Wasserstein, president of the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, summed it up recently in The Times Literary Supplement in London: In the 1992 municipal budget, the last under Mayor Teddy Kollek, capital expenditure was $900 per capita in Jewish areas, $150 in Palestinian. A third of Palestinians live three to a room, while just 2.5 percent of Jews do. A 1995 municipal report said that the East Jerusalem sewage system was half the required size and that schools and streets and lights were inadequate.

Like anyone else, Palestinians feel resentment when forced to live as a second-class group, unable to control their own lives. If Mr. Arafat acquiesced in a permanent status of that kind, he would not remain their leader.

Violence hurts the Palestinian cause, but it cannot be stopped at the diktat of Mr. Arafat. In the long run only peace — a peace of hope — can do that.

Israel's rapprochement with the rest of the Arab world also depends on peace with the Palestinians. Mr. Netanyahu should not have been surprised when an Arab conference last week called for suspension of the ties being formed with Israel.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict will end only when both parties can live in respect and security. That means Israel accepting a disarmed Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, with a political place in a still single Jerusalem. I am an optimist, and I think that will happen. The question is how many lives will be lost before Mr. Netanyahu or a successor chooses peace.

The New York Times.

Sudan: An Expanding Civil War With an Iran Connection

By Amir Taheri

LONDON — Sudan, Africa's largest country, has had three coups d'état and a civil war that been going on and off since the 1950s. Despite its size, its strategic location between Central Africa and the Red Sea, its control of much of the waters of the Nile and its huge natural resources, including oil, it has attracted little international attention.

The civil war, pitting the ruling Muslim Arabs in the north against the largely Christian and animist black Africans in the south, did not seem a threat to the region. The war, which has taken a million lives and produced at least 3.5 million refugees, was largely regarded as a domestic problem.

That is no longer the case. Since December the war in the south has been extended to the eastern provinces, where an opposition army, attacking from bases in Ethiopia and Eritrea, has captured several towns and is threatening to cut off the country's sole access to the sea at Port Sudan. A new offensive is expected by another rebel army attacking from Uganda.

The Khartoum regime, an alliance of Muslim fundamentalists and military officers, has threatened to extend the war to Ethiopia, Eritrea and Uganda.

Egypt has warned that it may become involved. What worries Egypt is the prospect of Iranian military intervention in support of the Khartoum fundamentalists. An air bridge has operated recently between Tehran and Khartoum, with Iranian cargo planes ferrying in food, medicine and, according to Western and Arab sources, large quantities of weapons.

In recent years Sudan has been the centerpiece of Iranian strategy in the Red Sea region and black Africa. It has hosted the Iranian president on two state occasions. More than 100 ministerial and other senior Iranian political and military missions have gone to Khartoum since 1992. The two countries have signed more than 30 agreements ranging from agro-business joint ventures to training for Sudanese army and intelligence officers in Iran.

According to Tehran sources, at least 400 members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard are present in Sudan, allegedly engaged in training militants from a dozen African countries. Under a recent agreement, Iran is to dispatch thousands of "construction mujahidin," a paramilitary organization, to Sudan to help build logistical infrastructure. Port Sudan provides the Iranian navy, and its three new Russian-built attack submarines, with its only mooring facilities outside Iran. Tehran has extended aid worth $180 million to Sudan, chiefly in weapons and cut-price oil.

Sudan is the only Muslim country to have followed Iran's example by establishing a radical fundamentalist regime. Khartoum's chief theoretician, Hassan Turabi, has emerged as the principal advocate of Iranian views in Africa.

As a man who helped recruit fighters for the war in Afghanistan in the 1980s, Mr. Turabi has many contacts with radical groups from Pakistan to Algeria and from the Gulf to Bosnia. Arab analysts warn that he might unleash his "Afghan" friends against pro-Western regimes in the region.

The struggle between radical Islam and the ruling elites in the Muslim world led to the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. It could now cause a war in Sudan in which Iran and Egypt would be fighting on opposite sides, and with Israel, Saudi Arabia and Libya also becoming involved.

Washington has a perplexing policy vis-à-vis Khartoum. Sudan figures on the State Department's list of "states sponsoring international terrorism," yet the Clinton administration encourages American companies to invest in oil projects there.

Tough measures are needed to force Khartoum to negotiate with the united opposition, an alliance of democrats, moderate Islamists and black Christians backed by former army officers, tribal leaders and trade unionists. Elections supervised by the United Nations could save Sudan from greater tragedy and Africa from a lengthy war.

The writer, an Iranian journalist and author abroad, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Cambodia: Sham Power-Sharing Undoes the Good Work

By Frederick Z. Brown and David G. Timberman

WASHINGTON — Escalating political violence has put Cambodia's remarkable experiment in democracy in grave jeopardy.

In Phnom Penh on Easter Sunday, a hand grenade attack on a peaceful political rally killed 19 persons and wounded more than 100, including a leading opposition figure, Sam Rainsy. It was the bloodiest in a series of violent incidents in recent months that reflect the breakdown of Cambodia's fragile ruling coalition.

If this escalation of violence goes unchecked, it will endanger prospects for meaningful national elections scheduled for late next year. It could reverse much socioeconomic and political progress that the international community has spent more than $2 billion promoting.

In 1975, society was reduced to ashes by the genocidal Khmer Rouge. A pawn on the Cold War chessboard, Cambodia was devastated by a civil war that lasted until a UN-brokered peace agreement was signed in Paris in 1991. UN-supervised elections were held in 1993, after which a "power-sharing" arrangement was established between a monarchist coalition under "first" Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh and the Cambodian People's Party, descendant of the former ruling Communist Party, under "second" Prime Minister Hun Sen.

The monarchists had won the 1993 elections, but the People's Party, which had the guns and control of the bureaucracy, refused to surrender power.

Since the formation of this rivalrous coalition, a relatively sound economic policy framework and a liberal investment code have been put in place. The outline of a civil society — including political parties, an outspoken press and lively nongovernmental organizations — is beginning to take shape. And there has been a sharp reduction in the military strength of the murderous Khmer Rouge.

These are laudable achievements for a traumatized, impoverished society with no previous experience in democracy or free market economics.

But power-sharing has been an unwieldy expedient. Now, with the 1998 elections in view, cooperation between the two prime ministers has all but ceased, and the shotgun marriage has begun to disintegrate. Many observers believe that Hun Sen and his party are determined to assume sole power one way or another.

The army, its generals loyal to one party or the other, is split. The National Assembly, once considered the linchpin of Cambodian democracy, is virtually powerless.

Violations of human and civil rights are increasingly prevalent. Cambodians and foreign donors alike complain of rampant corruption. With the upswing in political violence and the prospect of suppression of opposition political activity, the flows of international aid and commercial investment will decline.

Preservation of nascent democracy is essential to the welfare of Cambodia's 10 million people. It is also important to the members of the Association of South East Asian Nations, which Cambodia hopes to join in July. Indonesia played a leading role in brokering the Paris agreements. Thailand and Vietnam will be directly affected if neighboring Cambodia again sinks into chaos.

The credibility of the international community is at stake. The United States, Japan and the United Nations like to point to the 1991 Paris agreements, the UN-administered elections and subsequent developments in Cambodia as a post-Cold War success story and a model for international cooperation.

In the short term, the United States and others should encourage a reduction of violence and urge the government, in particular Hun Sen and his party, to honor the commitment to peaceful, multiparty political competition.

That is difficult, given Cambodia's traditions of absolutist leadership and zero-sum politics, but the last five years have shown that these damaging traditions can be moderated.

The factions should renew their commitment to the spirit of the Paris agreements. The agreements were first and foremost a practical diplomatic solution, but they included ambitious goals for human rights and democracy in Cambodia.

The international community must speak out against violence and act in concert to defend the principles of human rights, democracy and pluralism. That means ensuring that the elections take place as scheduled, and providing the necessary assistance for a level playing field for the period leading to them.

In dealing with all the Cambodian political parties, the international community should be clear about the costs of failing to hold credible open elections or to honor the outcome.

Mr. Brown is associate director of the Southeast Asian Studies program at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. Mr. Timberman is a consultant to the Asia Society. They contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Albania: This Military Force Can't Do the Job

By Frederick Bonnart

BRUSSELS — The international force raised on Italy's initiative for Albania is due to get there next week. Although its purpose is limited to protecting and supervising distribution of humanitarian aid, it is a risky undertaking that could do more harm than good.

Italy's move is understandable. In addition to genuine concern for human suffering, there is the refugee problem — 13,000 have already arrived. Italy is providing about half the 5,000 troops, and seven other countries have promised to participate. United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has welcomed the move.

Some other members of NATO (including the United States) and of the Western European Union have cautiously offered different forms of support. The organizations themselves, NATO and the WEU, have let Italy know that they would prefer not to be asked.

The initiative puts not only Italy's reputation but also the West's vision of a democratic Europe at risk. The danger arises from the ever present hope, behind the declared limited purpose, that the force can restore order in the country.

That wish is based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the purpose of military forces and the methods by which they achieve their aims.

Regular forces are trained and equipped to win conflicts against a recognizable enemy. Their objective is clear and they can exert maximum force to achieve it.

They can also be employed for peacekeeping, but, as these situations vary from case to case and often are confused, the missions and rules of engagement have to be sharply defined and well publicized. Tasks like "maintaining order" or "disarming populations" are not clear missions.

Faced with hard decisions about the need to stem slides into instability and to assist civilians caught up in internal conflicts, politicians habitually turn to the armed forces without appreciating their limitations.

Yet the logic is simple: The power of military forces lies in their ability to destroy and kill.

They can either do so or threaten to do so; if the latter, they must be prepared to carry out their threat. If, when challenged, they do not, their credibility vanishes.

Numerous recent examples exist, from Africa to Bosnia, where respect was gained only when the British-French force had used its heavy weapons and NATO had promised to continue to do so.

The troops were then able to maintain clear lines of separation and enforce procedures for restricting the mutual threat because those measures had been previously agreed upon by the warring parties, and central and local administrations had been set up to adhere to them.

In Albania, not only does the central government have no control over the country, but warring parties as such do not exist. Armed gangs are at large, but the extent of their control of localities is unknown.

Many in the population possess personal weapons, and in the absence of law enforcement organizations they may well require them for their personal protection. They can be expected to surrender them only once institutions exist to ensure their safety and the maintenance of law and order.

To establish such law and order is not the declared task of the allied force. A broken Albania cannot be made whole simply by the arrival of foreign troops. Criminal gangs and individual looters may be temporarily impressed, but without an indigenous police and the authority of a central administration they cannot be subdued.

Effective government may emerge from elections promised for June. But the present force has neither the mandate nor the strength to ensure that these elections are held, held fairly and accepted by the population. For that, considerably larger forces would be required.

In the absence of a credible government, a colonial-type administration would have to be set up to run the country until its own institutions were ripe to take over the reins. Even if this were acceptable to the international community, it would undoubtedly run into popular opposition, and violence would result. Casualties would occur on all sides.

No international organization is likely to be ready to devote the necessary resources for such a mission, nor risk incurring the opprobrium for failure. Italy will therefore have to be prepared to accept it, and remove its force if it is unable to carry out its task.

That would plunge Albania into further havoc, and weaken the credibility of the civilized community in its effort to spread democracy and tolerance.

International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: German Protest

WASHINGTON — There is grave danger of commercial warfare between the United States and Germany. The German Imperial Government makes a strong protest against the Dingley Tariff Bill. This protest is especially significant in view of the commercial friction already existing between the United States and Germany caused by the restrictions on American meat products made by Germany and the recent action by the United States imposing tonnage and port duties on German ships entering our ports. The Dingley tariff imposes increased duties on German products especially in textile fabrics, gloves, wines and sugar.

1922: Ice-Cream Cure

PARIS — Europeans who ridicule that great American dainty, ice-cream, will please take notice. In the very curious diary of Farington, the eighteenth century artist, it is noted that one Bacon, a member of the Royal Academy, "ate freely of ice-cream, saying he knew a lady who had been cured of a complaint of the stomach by it." Don't let us hear any more now about the gastronomic habits of the Americans being inimical to health.

1947: Henry Ford Dies

DETROIT — Henry Ford, founder of the greatest personal industrial empire in the world, died of a cerebral hemorrhage last night [April 8] at his home at near-by Dearborn. He was eighty-three years old. Mr. Ford, the son of an Irish immigrant, built the Ford Motor Company into a billion-dollar enterprise. His death came in a room lighted only by candles and kerosene lamps and heated only by a wood-burning fireplace.

OPINION/LETTERS

High-Tech Honeymoon Would Help Greenspan

By James K. Glassman

WASHINGTON — Growth doesn't cause inflation. Growth doesn't cause inflation. Growth ...

Well, you get the idea — even though, apparently, the Federal Reserve Board doesn't. It's no pleasure to second-guess Alan Greenspan, whose masterful direction of the Fed has helped give Americans the most stable prices in more than a quarter-century, but, still, he may have made a big mistake in raising short-term interest rates to stop inflation from rearing an ugly head which, currently, is nowhere in sight.

The truth is there's no direct, causal link between growth and inflation. Over the past 125 years, the economist Milton Friedman points out, America has had high growth during "times of mild deflation (1879-96), mild inflation (1896-1914 and 1947-69), substantial inflation (the two war periods) and relatively stable prices (the 1920s)."

Jack Kemp put it well in The Wall Street Journal: "Inflation is caused by too many dollars chasing too few goods, not by too many people working." To have both high employment and low inflation, the trick is to control the supply of dollars (which the Fed has done) and to make sure there aren't too few goods.

The way to do that is to encourage production — to unleash the creative power of Americans and their businesses — through lower taxes, less regulation, a smaller slice of the economy for the government. It's called boosting supply. What's remarkable is how resiliently and productively the private sector is already doing this in the face of the obstacles Washington places in its path.

To show how a supply-side revolution looks, I'd like to send Alan Greenspan to Silicon Valley on his honeymoon — along with the entire Congress and all the administration officials who aren't answering subpoenas. I just came back from this strip of land between San Francisco and San Jose, between ocean and bay — home of Hewlett-Packard, Intel, Cisco Systems, Oracle and 6,000 other high-tech companies.

In a special section in its March 29 issue, The Economist says this fertile crescent is "proof of capitalism's continuing vitality," contributing $65 billion to the nation's GDP — and a great deal more in spillover and spin-offs. Average pay in Silicon Valley is 55 percent higher than in the rest of the country.

And how appropriate in this land of imagination and optimism to run into my favorite optimist of all: Larry Kudlow, a former budget official who's now chief economist for American Skandia, a big insurance firm. As usual, he's lighting up the room. "Almost everybody is too pessimistic," he said at a conference at Palo Alto. "Either the budget deficits are too high or exchange rates are too high, or too low. Now they're saying too many people are working, too many jobs! This thinking has to be stopped."

Mr. Kudlow points out that, other than a blip in 1990-91, the U.S. economy has been growing strongly for 15 straight years, perking along at a growth rate of close to 3 percent.

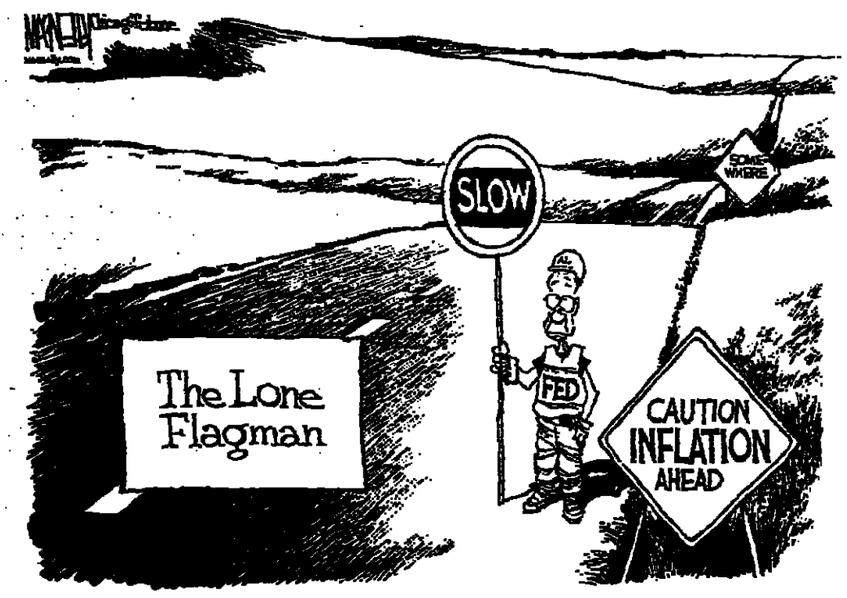
Mr. Kudlow credits Ronald Reagan's tax cuts and his pressure for government spending restraint with starting a new "long wave" of prosperity. Since 1982, the United States has created 26 million net new jobs and increased GDP (in real terms) by more than 50 percent. The Dow was 800 at the start of this boom, and, says Mr. Kudlow, "not a living soul would have believed that it would be 6,500 in 1997."

True. Nor would a living soul have believed that high tech would account for 40 percent of the annual increase in GDP; or that an upstart called Intel, run by a Hungarian immigrant, would be on the brink of passing General Electric as the most profitable company in America; or that more than a quarter of the population would be using something called the Internet, or that Silicon Valley (and its outposts in Washington state and Oregon) would be more vital to the economy than Detroit or New York.

Also, in this high-tech world, Washington is more and more irrelevant. Indeed, Mr. Greenspan's warnings about "irrational exuberance" in the stock market and the Fed's raising of interest rates last month sound almost like a plaintive cry from someone being ignored: "Hey, remember me?"

Ditto. Congress and the president. What they should do is get out of the way of this magnificent engine of progress — stop grousing and legislating and let a free economy enrich the lives of all Americans.

Washington Post Writers Group.



Reports of Print's Death Are Greatly Exaggerated

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — The grade school I attended taught kids well but didn't have a lot of money. So its library included some very old books. It couldn't afford to replace them or throw them out.

My favorites among the yellowing volumes were the old Tom Swift stories, written in the early years of the century, wherein

MEANWHILE

Tom discovered inventions newfangled for his time but already part of my life as a kid growing up in the early 1960s.

In one tale, written at the end of the '20s, Tom happens upon the discovery of television (or, as it was called then, "talking pictures"). The action revolves around evil movie moguls who want to suppress television because it will rob them of much profit, on the theory that people will stop going to films.

It turned out, of course, that television did not kill the movie industry. On the contrary, it's bigger than ever. That story keeps coming to mind amid predictions that the information superhighway will be the death of newspapers, books and all those wonderful printed things that you can hold with your hands. My hunch is that the predictions are wrong.

To begin with, the Web is a lot less mystifying than the talk around it makes it seem. People in the know speak as if using it requires highly complex skills that make them masters of the universe. The inventors of this technology were surely geniuses, but we schleps who use it don't have to know very much. The Web's power comes from the fact that it is easy.

It is also fun, and plays to our particular interests. I make regular visits to sites — including those constructed by newspapers — that offer large gobs of political news. I also like baseball sites that offer the scores early.

For work, the Web's various "search engines" allow access to information sources (libraries, company and university home pages, for example) that I would not know about absent this great invention.

And, as Tom Rosenstiel, director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism, has pointed out, the Web has allowed a rebirth of the "pamphleteering tradition" that goes back to the origins of the republic. You don't need to own an expensive printing press or a television station to get your message out. Sure, a lot of wacky conspiracy theories go out on the Web. But that's the price of free (and increasingly less expensive) speech.

Note that in my case, at least, I use the Web to supplement, rather than replace, sources of information and entertainment. The Web is no substitute for reading books, newspapers or magazines. And it is surely no substitute for watching or listening to a baseball game.

So, far from encouraging me to switch from one source of information to another, the Web has made me hunger for more of all of it. To return to Tom Swift's case: Movies and television, for better or worse, have prospered together rather nicely, as will old and new sources of information.

Mr. Rosenstiel, who studies these matters, has a similar view. "The technology is no longer an enemy of print but its ally," he says, allowing people in the news business to reach more, and different, types of readers. "The soul of your operation is not your printing press but your newsroom." Finding and disseminating information is more important than the means you use to present it.

None of this addresses the changes that technological leaps may make in the Web and thereby render my speculations obsolete. Nor does it get to the commercial questions raised by the technology. Newspapers, for example, live on advertising. Will the Web reduce the power of newspaper ads?

But I suspect newspapers will eventually figure out how to make the Web pay. And the idea that information breeds a desire for more information works even in the case of advertising: Many print and television ads urge you to go straight to some Web site to learn more about the product or cause being advertised.

Maybe this whole argument reflects the silly optimism of a lover of the printed word about to be run over by large technological forces. But history suggests human beings can keep more than one idea, and more than one technology, in their heads at the same time.

Washington Post Writers Group.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nike in Vietnam

Regarding "Making Billions on the Backs of Hungry Women" (Opinion, April 1) by Bob Herbert:

The article about Nike's workers in Vietnam, while dramatic, is misleading.

I just returned from a delicious, filling lunch of chicken, watercress and rice at a café in a district that is among Vietnam's most expensive. The cost: $0.55, cheaper than the writer's $0.70 for "a few mouthfuls of a vegetable and maybe some tofu." Here in Ho Chi Minh City, many Vietnamese families of four eat at home for about $1 per meal.

Further, if the women making Nike sneakers are paid $1.60 a day, that's somewhat higher than Vietnam's average per-capita earnings of less than $1 per day.

The real-world truth is that if workers were not paid so little in Vietnam, Nike would still be making its sneakers in higher-wage countries like Thailand or South Korea, and the workers in Vietnam would not have their jobs at all.

Workers' wages are only part of the equation. In Vietnam, due to business risks, corruption and government interference, executives consider the cost of doing business too high. As a result, there are still relatively few factories, and poverty and unemployment are widespread.

According to government estimates, millions live on less than $15 per month. Vietnam's workers compete fiercely for the jobs that are available.

Nike and other companies that seek low-wage workers are actually beneficial to countries like Vietnam and Burma. As reprehensible as Nike sounds from Mr. Herbert's description, without these companies the stomachs of the poor would be even more empty.

Neither paying a starvation wage nor mistreating workers is justifiable. But it is naive to suggest that corporations engage in such charity as paying higher-than-market wages. Shareholders who invest in Nike to pay for retirement or their children's education would quickly invest elsewhere.

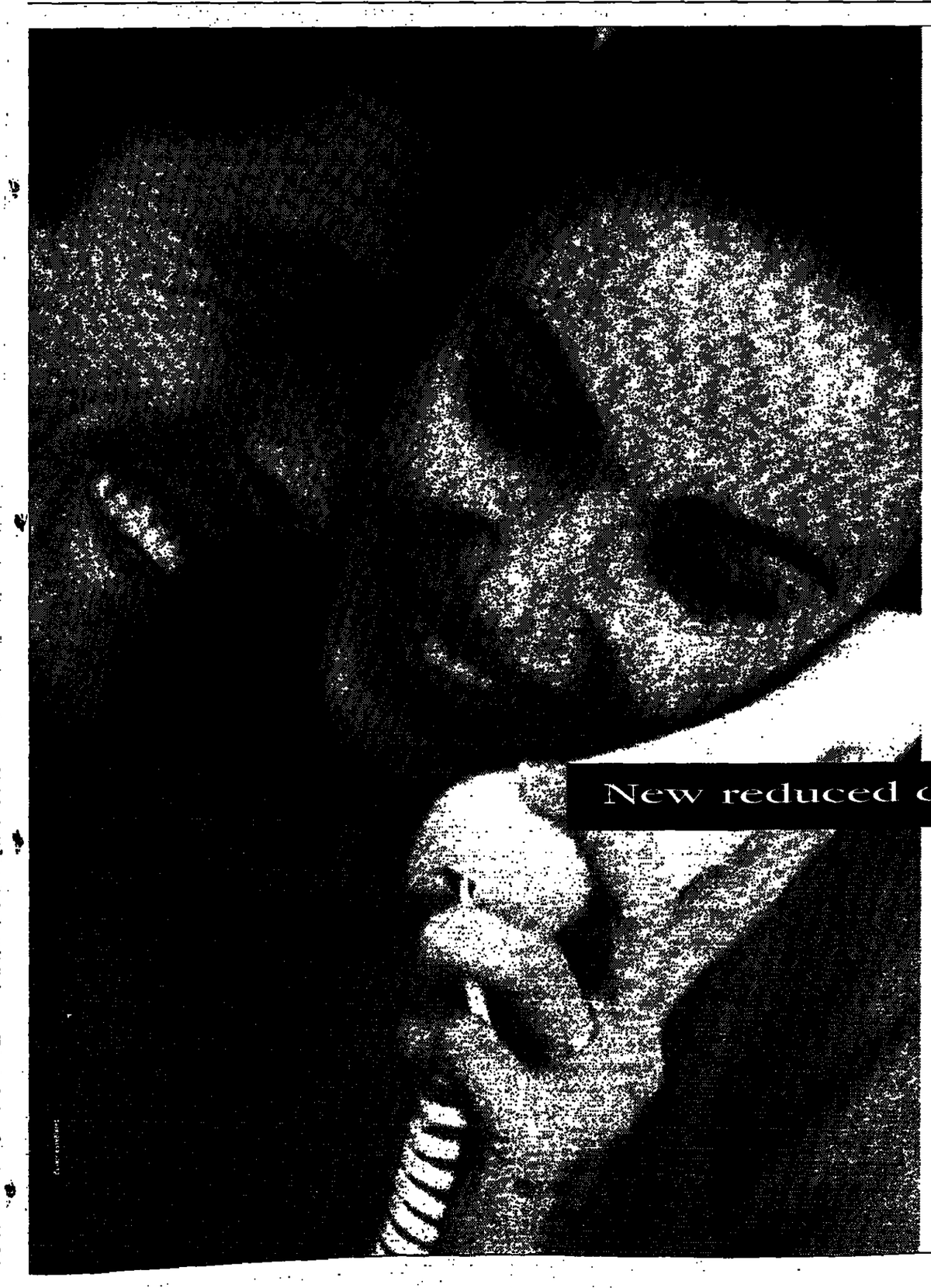
The plight of Vietnam's poor will improve only when the country has developed enough so that workers can walk away from jobs where they are abused or underpaid. This will take time and better management by the government.

DAVID CASE.
Ho Chi Minh City.

Mr. Herbert should be commended for reminding us, with his nightmare story, that our "free world" multinationals run a close second to the former Soviet Union in creating systems based on slave labor. What Nike has brought forth in Vietnam is a new gulag archipelago.

Are we returning to a new form of Blake's "dark Satanic mills"?

MARGARET SZMURAK.
Montreux, Switzerland.



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The Road Back to Katmandu

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

BOSTON — While Sharad Gurung was learning Western music at the Berklee College of Music, a carpet of dish antennas has spread over the rooftops of Katmandu.

Tourists in five-star hotels have replaced the hippies in their crash pads who "discovered" his native Nepal in the late '60s. Vulgar "Bombay Mix" music blares from ghetto-blasters. And kids wearing baseball caps backwards and Ice T T-shirts can be seen drinking Pepsis by the side of a road in the middle of nowhere.

After what he's learned during six years in Boston, Gurung would like to change all that. Well, not exactly. His goals are more realistic, more modest — and, he thinks, within his province. Still, it's a big gig.

Sharad Gurung: "Our tradition is preserved orally."

When he returns home at the end of the year, he wants "to inaugurate a conservatory for formal musical education emphasizing the use of Western musical techniques in contemporary Nepalese music." He wants to start an orchestra: "I'm looking for a new balance. Progress means intellectual and artistic enrichment as well as materialistic achievement."

As a teenager, Gurung was a member of The Brotherhood, the first Nepalese band signed to a contract to work a big tourist hotel in Katmandu. Their repertoire, which included standards like "Autumn Leaves," was largely picked up from the Voice of America. He had "absolutely no idea" why he moved his fingers the way he did across the keyboard. And there was nobody in the country who could tell him.

When they heard a tape of Segovia playing Bach for the first time, the three Gurung brothers wondered how one guitarist could play all those lines. "Polyphony is not natural to Nepalese music," says Sharad, the youngest brother. "We don't have harmony. Or rather, we do, but harmony usually means violins going up and down the wrong chord changes. We accept this in Nepal. I really don't know why."

With a diploma in guitar from the San Francisco Conservatory, his eldest brother became the first Nepalese with a college degree in music — he has opened a classical guitar society. His middle brother graduated from Berklee before Sharad.

Retired now, their father is a "well-known composer, singer and teacher" who was a pioneer in what are called "modern Nepalese songs."

Sharad, who is 32, has not visited home once during his six years in Boston. Although his family is not poor, the flight for him and his wife is way too expensive. And although his father "holds a respectable place" in the society, it's a poor country: "There are not more than 20 pianos in Nepal. There is only one university, one radio station and no music conservatory."

The modest four-track cassette tape recorder his eldest brother brought back from San Francisco was state-of-the-art hardware in Nepal. "We were amazed," says Sharad. "We could record and record until we got it right. It was a miracle." (He elected to take a course in recording engineering.)

Gurung's eyes shine when he speaks of his homeland. Abashed by its material primitiveness, he is at the same time proud of its culture and beauty. He has a combination of intelligence and naïveté, of energy and reflection, and a mixture of humor and the philosophic that one thinks of as particularly Eastern.

Now there are more four-track cassette recorders in the country. You can buy cassettes by Nepalese singers now. Nepalese popular music includes both Indian modes and Western scales. Although musicians play traditional instruments like the banshure (a transverse flute) and the madal (a kind of maraca), there are also acoustic guitars.

Gurung flashes a disarmingly direct self-deprecating smile before admitting: "But mostly there are Cassios everywhere." Cassios are cheap elementary electronic keyboards often used as children's toys in the West. He keeps on smiling until he is sure you get the implications of that, and then he shrugs: "Mozart is not generally known in Nepal."

"Except for some Indian classical pieces, we do not have purely instrumental music. Our music is vocal, it uses many microtones, and it is full of embellishment. We have no notation, our tradition is preserved orally."

"The complex social structure of our country," he continues, "is greatly influenced by Hinduism, from which comes the caste system that discriminates between people according to their occupations. The musician caste, known as Damain, is one of the lowest. My family caste is Gurung; socially, we are considered higher than the Damain. Most educated Nepalese might not believe in the caste system, but the mass population does."

He was "lucky enough" to have attended a school run by American Jesuit priests. He had no piano to practice on until a friendly official of the USIA let him use the one in his office during lunch breaks. Gurung sent a tape of his music along with an eloquent "personal statement" to the president of Berklee. He received a scholarship:

"The psychedelic rock the flower people brought with them gave most Nepalese a narrow understanding of Western music as just loud noise accompanied by drugs and long hair. People did not realize that in America rock and jazz are taught in universities."

When he first arrived, "all of those fast and inventive jazz piano players blew my mind," he says. "I was breathless, in shock, when I heard them. 'So *this* is jazz?!' I said to myself." In order to learn about the lives of historic jazzmen, he read every issue of Down Beat since the '70s.

His first years in Boston were "thirsty years." He could not get enough. He carried 16 or 17 credits (a lot) and he took a double-major, piano and composition. It came easier later, but at first it was like "I was confined between four walls, with no way to break through them. I had to learn the grammar of the music until it became a part of my own language."

He can hardly wait to sit down and talk to his father: "I've been absorbing all I can. I want to share what I have learned with my fellow Nepalese musicians. I have put together lots of teaching cassettes. And I've attached hard covers to better preserve all my notebooks."

Trevor Leighton

From left, Patrick O'Kane, Danny Webb and Dena Davis in Ben Elton's "Popcorn," at the Apollo.

A Wilde Summer: Dueling 'Fans'

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — "I congratulate you on your performance, which suggests you still think more highly of my play than I do." Oscar Wilde, of course, acknowledging the cheers of his first-night audience when **"Lady Windermere's Fan"** first opened at the St. James's in February 1892.

This was the "woman with a past" drawing-room drama that effectively brought the London stage into the present century. But it is most famous now for the cigarette holder and the green carnation with which Wilde first took to the stage that opening night, and any director reviving it has perhaps to ask, a century later, what still matters about the notorious but ultimately loving Mrs. Erlynne and her innocent, but ultimately unforgiving, daughter, Lady Windermere.

The heart of the play is still beating loudly enough to give us two rival "Lady Windermere" productions this summer. With one still to come at Chichester, the other has made the journey south from Manchester. Braham Murray's staging was conceived for the Royal Exchange in the round and, despite some handsome new sets and costumes, is still looking a little lost behind the proscenium arch.

Mercifully though, Murray does not here feel the need for a "concept"; he lets the play alone, allowing Gabrielle Drake to show us the virtues of staying well outside polite society. Rebecca Johnson points up nicely the unloving chilliness of her unknowing daughter, and Rosalind Knight cascades from a great height as the cranky old dowager who is clearly the first shadowing of Lady Bracknell.

At the Apollo, Ben Elton's **"Popcorn"** is far and away the best new comedy in town, as well as the most thoughtful. Topically enough, it is set over an Oscar weekend in Hollywood, where a Tarantino-type director has just

LONDON THEATER

received his first statuette for a film of unremitting bloodshed and sexual violence. He makes the ritual Academy Award speech of stunning inanity and incomprehensibility ("You are the wind beneath my wings and I flap for you") and returns home with a nubile bimbo-actress, model, whatever, only to find that his house has been invaded by a couple of down-market Bonnie and Clyde killers who proudly tell him that their multiple murders have been a kind of tribute to the violence he has shown them on screen. And what's more, they now intend to practice that violence on him and his nearest and even sometimes dearest.

The stage is thus set for a moral debate that would not have disgraced many more serious dramatists than Elton; and it is greatly to his credit that "Popcorn" remains as fresh and crackly as its title, never sinking into the portentous pseudo-philosophic chat show it could so easily have become. The great American quest, the play tells us, is not for truth, beauty or freedom but essentially just someone to blame, and by the end all the survivors have managed to find suitable scapegoats for their own appalling behavior.

... is a moralist carefully disguising ... as a comic entertainer. After a couple of disappointing stage scripts he has come into his own with a tough, socially conscious study of selfishness. The laughter quickly turns rancid as you realize just what these people are up to, high in the Hollywood hills; nothing less than the destruction of an entire moral code in the quest for instant social and sexual gratification.

In its own contemporary way, "Popcorn" is as much of a problem play as any ever devised by Wilde or Shaw; it asks essentially whether an artist can be blamed for the reaction of an audience or their later behavior, and though the final scene (with all American hands pressed on their remote controls, about to vote on matters of life or death by a simple channel-surfing switch) may seem a little desperate in its plotting contrivance, Danny Webb at the head of a cast of California cranks points up just wonderfully the double standards by which a movie culture lives and, often violently, dies.

Not Quite the Homer You Learned: Botho Strauss Takes Odysseus Home

By Paul Moor
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — Since Heiner Muller's death late in 1995, Botho Strauss has had no serious rival for the position of Germany's leading playwright. Of "Ithaka," which has opened in a stylish production at the Deutsches Theater, he says: "This is a transmutation from reading into drama. Nothing more than if one raised one's head from Homer's book and saw on a stage before one the long finale of 'Ithaka' [the Ionian island Odysseus called home] as one imagines it."

Reversion to the Greek classics, especially in the former East Berlin, evokes such problematical East German playwrights as Peter Hacks, who used to work around political repression and censorship by dodging contemporary material and adapting a number of classical myths to his own personal dramatic and political purpose.

In Botho Strauss' case, one cannot help wondering about his motivation. "Deviations, peripheral thoughts and associations that accompany the reading thus become integral parts of the dramaturgy," he says. "In order to remain mobile, the dialogue sacrifices the verse and the rhapsodic tone."

The language Strauss uses does eschew rhyme and consistent poetic meter, but it also has unostentatious stateliness, sometimes even elegance — hardly congruous with either the barbarous, murderous mores commonplace in Odysseus' time or with the dominant ironic inflection Thomas Langhoff has infused into his deft direction, lending a characteristically Berliner overlay of sardonic wit to Strauss' dialogue.

Twenty years earlier, Odysseus (a.k.a. Ulysses) has left Penelope to go tomcatting after Helen and get embroiled in the wars her face launched. Profoundly depressed, Penelope has sought solace in gluttony; during this production's first part, Dagmar Manzel appears as a wild-haired fury repulsively padded along the lines of the Michelin tire man, favoring the audience with the most gigantic behind ever seen on any stage. Her unloveliness fails to daunt the 11 predatory suitors gathered to take over, lock, stock and barrel, everything Odysseus has seemingly abandoned forever.

War-weary Odysseus (Dieter Mann) returns to Ithaka as an apparent beggar. Egged on by Zeus's insatiably bloodthirsty daughter Pallas Athene (Ulrike Krumbiegel), seconded by his son Telemachus, Odysseus hideously slaughters not only the suitors, in an unnervingly sanguinary massacre, but also the serving maids they have cavorted with, whose corpses get hung up by their feet.

For Strauss' raw material, he has gone not directly back to Homer but to two distinguished German scholars: "However, the great transferences from Johann Heinrich Voss and Anton Weiher remain present at least in the reminiscent echo: May it suffice to transport the auditor into the world's childhood just as before" — questionable cricket, perhaps, from the perspective of scholarship.

Aside from one of the suitors — crudely homophobic in directing and acting if perhaps not in writing — Langhoff's staging emerges triumphant, despite a playing time of three and three-quarter hours.

So does the brilliantly innovative set designed by Karl-Ernst Herrmann, whose seemingly inexhaustible imagination converts set changing into theatrical spectacle all its own.

Andrea Schmidt-Futterer's costumes complete a rarely brilliant evening in Berlin's great theatrical tradition.

BOOKS

THE LAST GIFT OF TIME: Life Beyond Sixty

By Carolyn G. Heilbrun. 225 pages. $19.95. Dial.

Reviewed by
Selwa Roosevelt

SOME time ago, Carolyn Heilbrun decided that when she reached the age of 70 she would commit suicide, thus avoiding the inevitable descent into the abyss of frailty, illness and senility.

A shocking but not unattractive thought that probably occurs to many people, though few would admit it. But Heilbrun is made of sterner stuff. A former professor of the humanities at Columbia University and an articulate feminist, she is the author of eight books of scholarship, including the classic "Writing a Woman's Life." She also has written a series of detective novels under the pseudonym of Amanda Cross.

Now into her 70s, Heilbrun in "The Last Gift of Time" reflects on and shares with her readers the many joys and surprisingly few limitations of life beyond 60. Indeed, she considers her 60s the happiest decade of her life.

And, as she explains, "I find it powerfully reassuring now to think of life as 'borrowed time.' Each day one can say to oneself: I can always die; do I choose death or life? I daily choose life the more earnestly because it is a choice." She thinks the major danger in one's 60s is to be "trapped in one's body and one's habits, not to recognize those supposedly sedate years as the time to discover new choices and to act upon them."

So far so good. But her choices do not seem to this reader particularly imaginative or bold. She hates to travel and, seeking solitude, she buys a second house in the country, leaving the first one for the use of her husband, her children and grandchildren. The first night alone in the new house, the doorbell rings and to her relief and delight, it is her husband, "I thought maybe I should keep you company, just for the first night." And he remained ever after, both to share and respect her occasional need for solitude.

Would she have made such a choice as a widow? No. For as she observes, "Solitude, late in life, is the temptation of the happily paired; to be alone if one has not been doomed to aloneness is a temptation so beguiling that it carries with it the guilt of adultery, and the promise of consummation."

Heilbrun, fleeing the arcane world of academia, made waves when she abruptly resigned after 30 years at Columbia. She refers to the "poisonous atmosphere" at Columbia especially toward feminists.

With the freedom to choose what to do next, she warns those with too much time and "no world" to find a world. The work involved should be concentrated, even difficult, but with measurable progress.

Nonetheless, she regrets that she spent the first five years of her 60s writing a biography of Gloria Steinem — a woman she still very much admires. Why then the regret? "In all the other undertakings of my 60s, whether a house, a dog or the contemplation of death, I emerged somehow changed, refigured with my life altered to extend the range of possible reactions and experiences, however subtle or internal . . . [yet] after the book's completion, it was as though the whole experience had disappeared forever."

Provocative and wise though she is, her writing is sometimes convoluted and I would have enjoyed more of her wry humor. Certainly growing old could be heavy going without a sense of humor and an eye for the ridiculous. However, she does convey her own sense of joy in her 60s. "If one dances for joy, one always supposes it is for the last time. Yet this supposition provides the rarest and most exquisite flavor to one's later years. The piercing sense of 'last time' adds intensity, while the possibility of 'again' is never quite effaced."

Selwa Roosevelt, former U.S. chief of protocol, wrote this for The Washington Post.

BEST SELLERS

New York Times

This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

This Week		Last Weeks	Wks on List
1	THE PARTNER, by John Grisham	1	4
2	3001: The Final Odyssey, by Arthur C. Clarke	5	4
3	SANCTUARY, by Nora Roberts		1
4	CHROMOSOME 6, by Robin Cook		1
5	THE NOTEBOOK, by Nicholas Sparks	3	24
6	EVENING CLASS, by Maeve Binchy	6	6
7	TOTAL CONTROL, by David Baldacci	2	10
8	A THIN DARK LINE, by Tami Hoag	8	3
9	SOLE SURVIVOR, by Dean Koontz	4	7
10	HORNET'S NEST, by Patricia Cornwell	7	10
11	THE CELESTINE PROPHECY, by James Redfield	11	156
12	THE LIST, by Steve Martini	9	5
13	THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN, by Jacquelyn Mitchard	13	28
14	ACTS OF LOVE, by Judith Michael	14	2
15	SMALL TOWN GIRL, by LaVyrle Spencer	10	8

NONFICTION

1	ANGELA'S ASHES, by Frank McCourt	1	29
2	MURDER IN BRENTWOOD, by Mark Fuhrman	2	5
3	THE GIFT OF PEACE, by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin	3	9
4	PERSONAL HISTORY, by Katharine Graham	4	8
5	CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD, by Neale Donald Walsch	6	16
6	THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR, by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	5	11
7	MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Berendt	7	142
8	THE KISS, by Kathryn Harrison	12	2
9	MY SERGEI, by Ekaterina Gordeeva with E. M. Swift	11	21
10	A REPORTER'S LIFE, by Walter Cronkite	14	16
11	JOURNEY INTO DARKNESS, by John Douglas and Mark Olshaker	10	8
12	DR. SUSAN LOVE'S HORMONE BOOK, by Susan M. Love with Karen Lindsey	8	2
13	THE MORAL INTELLIGENCE OF CHILDREN, by Robert Coles	13	5
14	NAKED, by David Sedaris		1
15	THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED AND BEYOND, by M. Scott Peck		1

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

1	EIGHT WEEKS TO OPTIMUM HEALTH, by Andrew Weil	1	3
2	SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ban Breathnach	2	72
3	MASTERING THE ZONE, by Barry Sears		5
4	THE ZONE, by Barry Sears with Bill Lawren		45

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Dollar Soars Against a Flailing Yen

Central Banks Appear Set to Stay on Sidelines

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar hovered just below a four-and-a-half year high against the yen Tuesday, supported by signs that officials from the United States and Japan would not step in to stop the rally.

Tsutomu Makino, deputy minister at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, said a weak yen would do more good than harm to the Japanese economy, which is struggling to emerge from a five-year slump.

The official's comment "suggests the Japanese are comfortable with the dollar," John Nelson, manager of currency trading at ABN-AMRO Bank, said.

On the U.S. side, Robert Rubin, the Treasury secretary who has been an outspoken critic of Japan's widening trade surplus with the United States, has said little about the dollar's gains this week. During a trade visit to Vietnam on Monday, Mr. Rubin merely restated the U.S. position that a strong dollar was in America's interest.

"Removing that piece of the political puzzle takes a lot of pressure off the dollar," Mr. Nelson said. "The U.S. administration is not troubled by the dollar at these levels or higher."

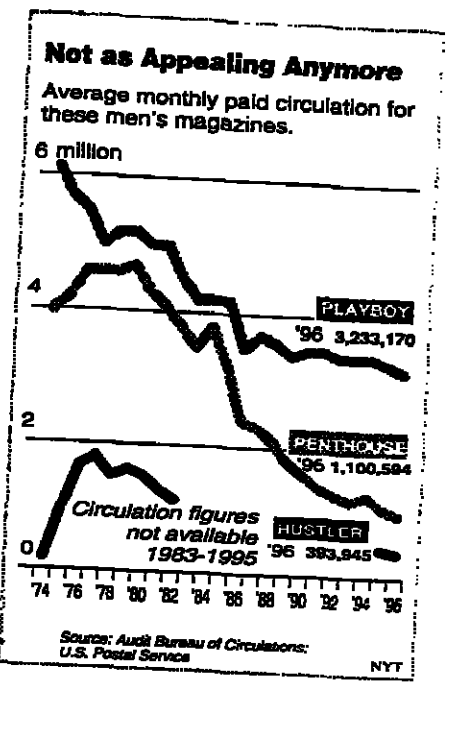
The dollar rose to 126.335 yen in 4 P.M. trading from 125.580 yen Monday, just below its four-and-a-half-year high of 126.550 reached in Tokyo trading.

It also edged up to 1.7155 Deutsche marks from 1.7125 DM, to 5.7725 French francs from 5.7610 francs and to 1.4743 Swiss francs from 1.4696 francs. The pound slipped to $1.6265 from $1.6278.

Favorable U.S. interest rates and signs that a single European currency will be launched on time, if on a weak note, also lifted the dollar, analysts said.

"There's a strong view that the euro will be a weak currency, at least at the beginning," said Chris Iggo, an economist at BZW, a division of Barclays

See DOLLAR, Page 12



Video and the Web vs. Larry Flynt

By Constance L. Hays
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The movie appeared in theaters as "The People vs. Larry Flynt." But as Mr. Flynt himself has observed, it might have been called "$60 Million Worth of Free Advertising."

These days, Mr. Flynt's empire can use any free help it gets. He has been placing increasing emphasis on what is euphemistically called the "men's sophisticates" magazine category when renting a raunchy video can be cheaper than the $5.99 cover price of Hustler and when sexually explicit cable-television channels and Web sites are competing for his target audience. As a result, Mr. Flynt's operation seems to be falling behind in the swiftly evolving X-rated market.

The current Hollywood limelight aside, Larry Flynt Publishing Inc., solely owned by its namesake, is so secretive that financial information on the company is as wispy as the clothing on a centerfold model. But there are signs of trouble.

Within the past 18 months, the company has sold or closed a handful of magazines created for a more mainstream market, such as Super Cycle and Maternity Fashions. The new focus: a group of 20 titles that — with a few relatively staid exceptions such as PC Laptop and the music-oriented Rap Pages — is skewed toward sexually explicit publications such as Leg World and Busty. Retrenching to this hard-

MEDIA MARKETS

core core is a risky strategy when large chunks of the readership are finding the same photography and mindset through other media — often for less.

Circulation is down, especially damaging for a company that relies heavily on single-copy sales, rather than subscription or advertising sales, for its estimated $100 million in annual revenue. Its flagship publication, Hustler, sold 2 million copies a month in 1976.

But these days, Hustler's press run is less than a million copies, and on average more than half are returned unsold, according to the 1996 statement of ownership on file at the U.S. Postal Service branch in Long Beach, California, where the company is required to submit audited figures to receive second-class postage privileges.

The skin-magazine business in general is "not as hugely profitable as it was before," said Reed Phillips, a principal in DeSilva & Phillips, a New York investment bank that advises media companies. "The corner video store has made a big difference for these magazines."

Playboy and Penthouse also have seen their circulations plummet in recent years.

"The readers are aging with the owners," said Martin S. Walker, chairman of Walker Communications, a longtime adviser to media companies.

By all accounts, Mr. Flynt, who declined to be interviewed for this article, runs an autocracy that allows him to make business decisions virtually unchallenged. It is not known exactly why he has not followed in the footsteps of Playboy and Penthouse, which, facing similar pressures, have inched toward a certain self-defined degree of respectability and branched out.

Fifty-eight percent of Playboy Enterprises Inc.'s estimated $7.6 million profit for the financial year that will end

See HUSTLER, Page 15

Banking Rules for All

Accord Sets Global Guidelines

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Hoping to forestall any future Mexico-style crises and other financial shocks, central banks and regulators from around the world, including China and Russia, agreed Tuesday for the first time on a comprehensive set of rules to police banking operations worldwide.

Officials said that by working closely with central banks from China, Russia India and a handful of fast-growing emerging economies in Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America, the industrialized West is seeking both to recognize the shift in gravity in the world economy and to help foster a safer global financial system in the next century.

The set of 25 core principles on banking supervision was announced by the Bank for International Settlements, the institution in Switzerland that is the leading forum for monetary cooperation for the advanced democracies of the West.

The agreement sets out a range of bank supervision guidelines that were described by officials as a distillation of the best practices of the leading central banks and other regulators of the United States, Europe and Japan.

Among them are rules concerning minimum capital requirements, the need for adequate internal controls, the monitoring of corporate lending practices, the evaluation of country risk in international lending, the need for external auditors and full disclosure practices.

Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa, a senior Bank of Italy official who led the committee that wrote the rules, said in an interview Tuesday that one of the more striking elements of the agreement was that it is comprehensive.

"From time to time we have put out rules concerning one particular aspect of banking supervision," he said, "but this package covers all aspects, from birth to death, meaning the entire life cycle of a banking institution."

The agreement also marks the first concrete initiative to involve new emerging economies since the Bank for International Settlements — formerly an inner sanctum for some of the world's richest nations — opened its doors last year to new members.

Mr. Padoa-Schioppa said the guidelines would be discussed by President Bill Clinton and other leaders of the Group of Seven industrialized nations at their annual economic summit meeting, in Denver this summer. The idea is to then seek formal endorsement by governments of the guidelines before September.

Mr. Padoa-Schioppoa said that the International Monetary Fund had agreed to help monitor enforcement of the rules.

"This is the first time that a complete set of rules applicable by all countries and to all banks has been agreed," Mr. Padoa-Schioppa said, "and with the active participation of a large group of nonindustrialized countries, emerging economies, and new financial centers from all continents."

Mr. Padoa-Schioppa said the rules had been prepared in cooperation with Brazil, Chile, China, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Singapore and Thailand.

"In de facto terms," he said, "the countries mentioned have very actively participated in the preparation, they have seen all the drafts, they have discussed every aspect and they fully agree with the contents."

Asked how countries could be made to comply with the new rules, Mr. Padoa-Schioppa stressed that the agreement was not in the form of a legally binding treaty, but that banking supervisors had in the past agreed on such accords and generally complied with them.

"A mixture of market forces, peer pressure, the need for respectability and credibility on the part of national authorities and banking systems should help to enforce this agreement," he said.

The guidelines also include a recommendation that central banks should be independent. "We are suggesting," Mr. Padoa-Schioppa said, "that decisions concerning banking supervision should be taken without any political consideration and without deferring to any special interests, either in the public or private sectors."

Commenting on plans to cooperate with the International Monetary Fund, Mr. Padoa-Schioppa said that as the guidelines were written over the past nine months, the idea that emerged was "that bank supervisors agree on the rules and the IMF will help in monitoring, surveillance and implementation."

How the Dead Help Some Make a Living

By Marc Fisher
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Darci Ross's clients spare her the headaches that afflict a modern-day sports agent. Her clients will never force her into damage control by spitting on an umpire or belting a sportswriter.

Her clients will never sully a wholesome image by dyeing their hair green or baring their private parts.

Of this Ms. Ross can be certain, because her clients are safely and permanently ensconced in the sports-hero firmament. Her clients are dead.

The client list at CMG Worldwide, where Ms. Ross is president, includes Jackie Robinson, Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Vince Lombardi, Joe Louis, Jesse Owens and Secretariat, among about 200 sports stars and celebrities.

If you're looking for a posthumous endorsement from the likes of Amelia Earhart, Humphrey Bogart, Marlene Dietrich, Malcolm X or Oscar Wilde, it might be prudent to call Ms. Ross before appropriating the celebrity's image.

CMG has cornered the market on dead athletes, signing the families or estates of more than 50 legendary figures, from Cy Young to Casey Stengel and on to Thurman Munson.

"That's our niche," Ms. Ross said. "You can count on our clients."

For a cut of the receipts ranging from 40 percent to 60 percent, CMG can sharply increase a family's income from their ancestor's name and image. Until they signed with the agency a decade ago, Babe Ruth's survivors, for example, saw perhaps $100 a year from sales of the Sultan of Swat's name. Now they get annual checks in six figures, Ms. Ross said.

Computer-photo technology has made it possible to bring stars back from the beyond, inserting their faces and voices into TV commercials, pitching beer, cars, even items that hadn't been invented in their day.

"Far and away, the players from another era sell better than the current ones, the Griffeys and the Bonds," said Frank Walsh, chief executive of Authentic Images, a San Diego-based company that makes gold trading cards of sports and entertainment figures.

Among the busier posthumous packaging deals is that of the great Negro League pitcher, Satchel Paige.

"They look better from many years away, even the Babe Ruths of the world, whose behavior we now know all about."

For CMG, it's a $10 million-a-year business, and the agency has shown it will use copyright and intellectual-property laws to protect its clients. A few years ago, CMG took on the filmmaker Spike Lee over the use of the "X" from Malcolm X's name, eventually making certain that the slain black leader's widow, Betty Shabazz, won rights to the T-shirts, hats and other spin-offs from Mr. Lee's biographical movie.

While advertisers and merchandisers are not exactly beating down the door to license the images of Casey Stengel or Oscar Wilde, some dead celebrities remain in high demand. Vince Lombardi has 11 licensing deals, including one with Hallmark Cards to use his image on greeting cards, one with a company that puts the former Green Bay Packers football coach on prepaid phone cards and the usual array of poster, lithograph and movie contracts.

Among the busier posthumous packaging deals is that of the great Negro League baseball pitcher, Satchel Paige. Twenty-nine companies have signed to offer Paige products or to use his image in ads. There are Paige plates, ornaments, figurines, boxer shorts, calendars, playing cards and board games. Companies that make beer, computer programs and cereal have contracted to use Mr. Paige's picture to spur their sales.

Mark Roesler, the founder of CMG, got into the dead-celebrity business by marrying the daughter of the publisher of the Saturday Evening Post. Mr. Roesler was assigned the task of protecting copyrights on the more than 300 covers that Norman Rockwell had painted for the magazine.

That work led to his first real client, when the survivors of Elvis Presley hired Mr. Roesler to handle licensing for the late singer.

"In the majority of cases, it's a family member whom we represent," Ms. Ross said. "But it can be whoever handles the estate. For Shoeless Joe Jackson, it's the American Heart Association." CMG has some living clients too, including the former Yankees great Whitey Ford, the former Chicago Cubs pitcher Ferguson Jenkins and the football legends Johnny Unitas and Y.A. Tittle.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

April 8

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.926	3.1275	1.1246	0.3342	0.114*	—	5.4505*	1.3066	1.5233*	1.388	1.331*
Brussels	35.3725	57.34	20.6315	6.1315	2.0894*	18.3465	—	23.945	0.2805	25.515	24.475*
Frankfurt	1.7139	2.7825	—	0.2972	0.1014*	0.8892	4.8468*	1.1639	1.3578*	1.2361	1.1044*
London (a)	1.6234	—	2.7775	9.3473	2,741.108	3.1236	57.3368	2.3869	204.8343	2.2573	234.6492
Madrid	144.888	234.726	84.458	25.10	0.553*	75.105	4.0887	98.105	114.885*	104.452	—
Milan	1,698.95	2,740.25	985.80	292.80	—	875.85	47.739	1,140.75	13.364	1,218.00	11.466
New York (b)	—	1.626a	1.7155	5.7725	1,692.80	1.929	35.38	1.4740	126.335	1.3881	144.82
Paris	5.769	9.3515	3.3649	—	0.3400*	2.9922	0.1631	3.9866	4.5739*	4.1645	3.984*
Tokyo	125.75	204.53	73.26	21.70	0.745	65.14	3.5513	85.22	—	90.66	0.8681
Toronto	1.388	2.2575	0.8088	0.2408	0.0821*	0.7205	0.3926*	0.9489	1.099*	—	0.959*
Zurich	1.4785	2.3915	0.8595	0.2555	0.087*	0.7643	4.1657*	—	1.1644*	1.0997	1.0874*
1 ECU	1.1405	0.7048	1.9588	6.591	1,934.15	2.2087	40.4125	1.6863	144.101	1.5838	165.443
1 SDR	1.3689	0.8437	2.3482	7.8874	2,317.53	2.6393	46.4399	2.0203	172.144	1.9093	198.236

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; New York at 4 P.M. and Toronto rates at 3 P.M.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9998	Greek drac.	269.73	Mex. peso	7.89	S. Afr. rand	4.432
Australian $	1.2812	Hong Kong $	7.749	N. Zealand $	1.4539	S. Kor. won	894.00
Austrian sch.	12.056	Hung. forint	177.95	Norw. krone	6.9445	Swed. krona	7.6673
Brazil real	1.0625	Indian rupee	35.85	Phil. peso	26.34	Taiwan $	27.58
Chinese yuan	8.3266	Indo. rupiah	2405.00	Polish zloty	3.10	Thai baht	26.06
Czech koruna	29.03	Irish £	0.646	Port. escudo	171.78	Turkish lira	129480.
Danish krone	6.5261	Israeli shek.	3.383	Russ. ruble	5735.50	UAE dirham	3.6705
Egypt. pound	3.3962	Kuw. dinar	0.3038	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	476.50
Fin. markka	5.1050	Malay. ring.	2.5058	Sing. $	1.4412		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.6209	1.6201	1.6193	Japanese yen	125.63	125.12	124.55
Canadian dollar	1.3837	1.3810	1.3786	Swiss franc	1.4692	1.4649	1.4603
Deutsche mark	1.7103	1.7072	1.7036				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo).

Libid-Libor Rates

April 8

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 7/16 - 5 1/2	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	1 11/16 - 1 13/16	6 1/8 - 6 1/4	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	7/16 - 9/16	4 1/8 - 4 5/16
3-month	5 11/16 - 5 13/16	3 - 3 1/8	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	6 1/4 - 6 1/2	3 11/16 - 3 9/16	7/16 - 9/16	4 1/2 - 4 5/16
6-month	5 7/8 - 5 15/16	3 1/16 - 3 3/16	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	6 9/16 - 6 11/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1/2 - 5/8	4 1/8 - 4 5/16
1-year	6 5/16 - 6 1/4	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	1 7/8 - 1 15/16	6 7/8 - 7 1/8	3 3/8 - 3 1/2	5/8 - 3/4	4 1/4 - 4 5/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/2	8 1/2
Federal funds	5 5/16	5 5/16
90-day CDs dealers	5.71	5.72
180-day CP dealers	5.63	5.64
3 month Treasury bill	5.11	5.15
1-year Treasury bill	5.64	5.62
2-year Treasury bill	6.41	6.39
5-year Treasury note	6.75	6.73
7-year Treasury note	6.81	6.84
10-year Treasury note	6.89	6.87
30-year Treasury bond	7.10	7.08
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.90	4.89
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.44	0.42
1-month interbank	0.59	0.59
3-month interbank	0.59	0.59
6-month interbank	0.66	0.66
10-year Govt bond	N.A.	2.17
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.15	3.15
1-month interbank	3.25	3.25
3-month interbank	3.27	3.27
6-month interbank	3.28	3.29
10-year Bond	5.90	5.93
Britain		
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	6 1/16	5 3/4
1-month interbank	6 1/8	6 1/8
3-month interbank	6 5/16	6 1/4
6-month interbank	6 1/2	6 9/16
10-year Gilt	7.61	7.63
France		
Intervention rate	3.10	3.10
Call money	3 5/16	3 7/16
1-month interbank	3 1/4	3 1/4
3-month interbank	3 1/4	3 1/4
6-month interbank	3 1/4	3 5/16
10-year OAT	5.82	5.82

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	N.A.	348.50	+0.25
London	349.10	349.10	+0.10
New York	350.90	351.20	+0.20

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (June.)
Source: Reuters.

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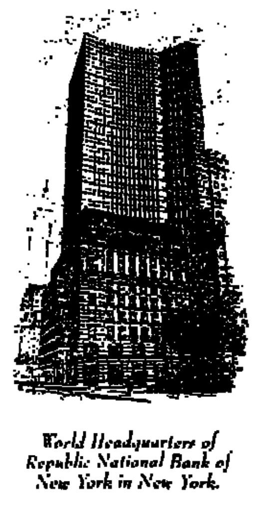

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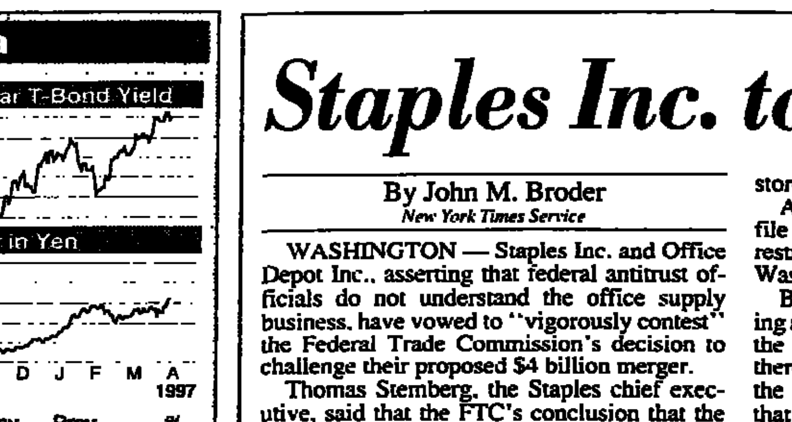
THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Tuesday @4PM	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	6609.16	6555.91	+0.81
NYSE	S&P 500	766.07	762.12	+0.52
NYSE	S&P 100	746.07	741.50	+0.62
NYSE	Composite	402.29	400.68	+0.40
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1257.41	1251.34	+0.49
AMEX	Market Value	561.41	579.53	-3.13
Toronto	TSE Index	5814.40	5837.40	-0.39
São Paulo	Bovespa	9732.21	9836.52	-1.06
Mexico City	Bolsa	3772.28	3787.94	-0.41
Buenos Aires	Merval	715.82	720.71	-0.68
Santiago	IPSA General	5354.86	5352.96	+0.04
Caracas	Capital General	6202.30	6170.19	+0.52

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters International Herald Tribune

Staples Inc. to Fight U.S. on Merger

By John M. Broder
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Staples Inc. and Office Depot Inc., asserting that federal antitrust officials do not understand the office supply business, have vowed to "vigorously contest" the Federal Trade Commission's decision to challenge their proposed $4 billion merger.

Thomas Stemberg, the Staples chief executive, said that the FTC's conclusion that the merger would result in higher prices and decreased competition was based on a small sample of product prices and a flawed theory of the office products market.

"We believe an unbiased court of law will understand the merits of our case," Mr. Stemberg said.

The commission voted, 4 to 1, on Friday to go to federal court this week to block the proposed combination, which would have created a office supply giant with more than 1,000 stores and $10 billion in annual sales.

Agency officials said that they planned to file a motion seeking an order temporarily restraining the merger in a federal court in Washington later this week.

Both sides' positions appeared to be hardening after the vote Friday. William Baer, chief of the commission's antitrust bureau, said that there did not appear to be any way to structure the merger to ease the commission's concern that the deal was anti-competitive.

Mr. Stemberg, who called the panel's decision "bizarre" and "absurd," indicated that the companies would pursue the merger regardless of cost. He said Monday that the companies would seek an expedited hearing in federal court to resolve the matter before the merger agreement expires May 31.

The federal trade agency's complaint is based in large part on pricing studies and econometric models that officials say demonstrate that Staples, Office Depot and the only other company in the superstore business, Officemax Inc., compete only against each other, and not against other suppliers of office goods.

Commission officials have argued that eliminating one of the three competitors will violate federal antitrust laws and will inevitably lead to higher prices.

But Mr. Stemberg contended that the combined company would control less than 6 percent of a highly competitive and fragmented $185 billion office supply industry. He said that the merger, if it was allowed to proceed, would not end price competition for office products because they would continue to be sold by such giant retailers as Wal-Mart, warehouse clubs and several large nationwide catalogue dealers.

"Staples and Office Depot are committed to our mission of bringing even lower prices to our customers" after the merger, Mr. Stemberg said.

U.S. Trade Delegation Strives for New Look

By Paul Blustein
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Commerce Secretary William Daley has said he will lead a trade mission to South America next month, his first since he took over the department, and vowed to eliminate perceptions of political favoritism in choosing the participants.

The mission, which is scheduled to go to Brazil, Argentina and Chile from May 11 to May 19, will include about 12 yet-to-be-chosen U.S. business executives for each of the three countries, Mr. Daley said Monday.

The move marks an important step in Mr. Daley's efforts to dispel the cloud created by allegations that previous trade missions included a disproportionate number of big Democratic donors. Those allegations have featured prominently in the controversy over the fund-raising practices of President Bill Clinton's administration.

The Commerce Department's ability to aggressively support the interests of U.S. multinational companies abroad has been severely hampered by the issue. In response, Mr. Daley imposed a 30-day moratorium on departmental trade missions when he took office in February. At the end of the period, he issued guidelines aimed at ensuring that partisan considerations would be eliminated from the process of choosing participants in the trade trips. Now, he said in an interview, the time has come for the department to resume its advocacy role for U.S. businesses, especially because top officials from countries such as France, Germany, Japan and Canada have been bringing groups of executives from their countries on visits to rapidly growing emerging markets.

"People will continue to raise questions about trade missions," he said. "We can't do anything about that. The fact is, we've got to get back in the business of being around the world just as our competitors are doing."

In accordance with the new guidelines, he said, the selection process will be "overseen and decided by a majority of career people" from the department, rather than by political appointees. The Commerce Department's press release issued Monday stated: "An applicant's partisan political activities (including political contributions) are irrelevant to the selection process."

The choice of Latin America reflects the Clinton administration's desire to create a hemispheric free-trade zone by 2005, starting with the incorporation of Chile into the North American Free Trade Agreement.

At present, this plan for a free-trade initiative in the Western Hemisphere is beset by political troubles, however, including resistance in Congress to legislation needed to negotiate trade deals.

"The fact that my first mission as commerce secretary will be to Latin America reflects the importance of this region to our economic future," Mr. Daley said.

Technology Beats Rates As Motivator Of Market

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks rose Tuesday as strength in technology and banking issues offset a drop in Treasury bond prices.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 53.25 points at 6,609.16, and the broader Standard & Poor's 500-share index rose 3.94 points, to 766.07.

Better-than-expected earnings from Advanced Micro Devices and Motorola helped technology issues advance.

"You are starting to see technology companies report some good earnings," Paul Meeks, director of research at Jurika & Voyles, said. "People remember how exciting stocks were and are getting warm and fuzzy about them again."

AMD said earnings were led by sales of its flash memory chips, which are used in portable computers, and sales of its K5 processor, which competes with a

U.S. STOCKS

model from Intel. AMD closed up ¼ at 43¼.

But while profit also was strong at Motorola, the company said orders were less than expected in the first quarter, indicating sales growth may not pick up until the second half of 1997. Motorola fell 1¾ to 59¾.

Banking stocks rose after Standard & Poor's said credit-card losses rose less quickly in February than in January. Citicorp rose 2½ to 114½, and First Chicago advanced ⅛ to 54¾.

Those sectors offset a drop in Treasury bond prices, which were hit by a Labor Department economist's forecast of a temporary rise in inflation. That fueled speculation that the Federal Reserve Board would raise interest rates again soon.

The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 12/32 point, to 94 5/32, taking the yield up to 7.10 percent from 7.08 percent Monday.

Viking Office Products, the most actively traded U.S. stock, fell 5½ to 14½ after the company said the rising dollar would result in lower-than-expected earnings for its third quarter. (Bloomberg, AP)

Very briefly:

Wholesale Sales Surged in February

WASHINGTON (Bloomberg) — U.S. wholesale sales rose in February at the fastest rate in almost three years, suggesting growth may accelerate in the months ahead as companies place new orders to maintain inventories, according to government figures released Tuesday.

A 2.1 percent increase in February in wholesale sales, up from a 0.8 percent rise a month earlier, was the largest since August 1994, the Commerce Department said.

Polo Ralph Lauren to Go Public

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) — Polo Ralph Lauren Corp., the apparel and fragrance company with one of the world's best-known brand names, plans to raise as much as $600 million through an initial public offering.

The New York-based company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission to sell an undetermined number of Class A common shares. The Lauren family will maintain control of the company through its ownership of Class B shares, which receive 10 votes each.

Polo Ralph Lauren plans to use the proceeds from the stock sale to pay debt and a special dividend.

• **Bausch & Lomb Inc.** said it had agreed to make and sell prescription sunglasses under the Ray-Ban brand name with France's **Essilor International SA**, a leading maker of prescription lenses.

• **U.S. companies** cut jobs in March at the fastest pace in 15 months, said Challenger, Gray & Christmas Inc., an outplacement company. A total of 50,182 workers lost their jobs in March, up 33.9 percent from a year earlier.

• **Chrysler Corp.** has abandoned plans to build a $192 million auto-assembly plant in Vietnam because the number of automakers licensed to build plants has increased, eroding hopes of near-term profit. *Bloomberg*

DOLLAR: *Central Banks Appear Ready to Stand Aside as U.S. Currency Soars*

Continued from Page 11

Bank. The stabilization of stock and bond markets after last week's volatile price swings also contributed to the dollar's advance, Steve Gallagher, an economist at Societe Generale, said.

"It's not brain surgery," Thomas Arnold, chief currency trader at Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank in New York, said. "With the large difference between interest rates in the U.S. and Japan, if you're an investor, the first thing you're going to do is buy dollars."

The Federal Reserve Board is expected by many to raise U.S. interest rates again when its policy-making council meets May 20. Rates in Ger-

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

many and Japan, meanwhile, show no signs of rising, and some analysts are even beginning to expect German rates to be cut soon.

Bonn is struggling to trim its budget deficit to 3 percent of gross domestic product by 1999 to qualify for the European Union's planned single currency. "Germany wants to meet the budget criteria and will want to stimulate domestic growth," Domenick Presa, chief currency trader at Dresdner Bank, said. Given that, Germany may be "inclined to lower" interest rates," he said.

Eisuke Sakakibara, head of the Finance Ministry's international finance bureau, said the central bank would act if the currency market "deviates from fundamentals," Nikkei English News reported.

Kabun Mutoh, director-general of Japan's Management and Coordination Agency, said the central bank should consider raising interest rates. But both of the comments were eclipsed by those of Mr. Makino.

The dollar also was able to shrug off comments from Richard Medley, a prominent U.S. investment adviser, who said a move above 126.50 yen would put the dollar in a "danger zone." He also called 130 yen a "critical political and psychological limit" and suggested that the risk of U.S. intervention grew with every yen the dollar rose.

(Bloomberg, Bridge News, AFP)

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

The top 300 most active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
AAC	428	21¼	21⅛	21¼	—
AAC pf	191	36¾	36⅝	36¾	—
ARC	561	3⅝	3½	3⅝	-⅛
ATT Fd	130	81	80⅝	80⅝	-⅛
AVIC Gp n	796	5⅞	4⅞	5⅞	+⅞
AckGrp s	191	13⅛	12¾	12¾	+⅛
AdvMag	219	13⅛	12½	12⅝	-⅛
AdvMed	633	4⅜	3⅞	4¼	+⅜
AdvPhot	154	1⅞	1¾	1⅞	+⅛
Aerosol	178	8⅛	8	8	-⅛
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	6552.13	6609.54	6520.03	6609.16	+53.25
Trans	2425.20	2427.97	2410.10	2425.82	-1.54
Util	213.47	214.64	212.97	214.22	-0.42
Comp	2066.12	2078.10	2056.84	2077.88	+9.50

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Previous Close	Today 4:00
Industrials	897.42	889.86	894.53	899.46
Transp.	555.48	551.72	553.68	551.72
Utilities	186.90	186.15	186.17	185.42
Finance	86.74	85.48	86.27	87.75
SP 500	764.82	757.90	762.13	766.07
SP 100	744.99	737.02	741.50	746.07

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	402.43	398.98	402.31	+1.63
Industrials	506.57	502.42	506.39	+1.58
Transp.	364.23	361.40	363.71	-0.21
Utility	256.28	254.22	254.69	-1.59
Finance	370.71	365.06	370.69	+4.81

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1256.16	1245.76	1256.16	+4.81
Industrials	1030.25	1026.16	1029.96	-1.30
Banks	1371.19	1366.79	1371.19	+6.52
Insurance	1415.96	1409.14	1415.96	+1.30
Finance	1676.17	1669.74	1676.17	+4.09
Transp.	871.93	866.22	871.93	+2.18

AMEX

High	Low	Last	Chg.
561.43	559.68	561.42	+0.98

Dow Jones Bond

	Previous Close	Today Noon
20 Bonds	101.83	101.63
10 Utilities	98.56	98.33
10 Industrials	105.10	104.92

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
NikeB s	74552	56¼	52⅞	54⅛	-¼
MicronT	62235	43⅛	42	43¾	+1⅛
ColHCA s	60629	33⅛	32⅛	32¾	-⅛
AMD	60004	45	42¾	43	—
Checkpnt	58092	11¾	9¼	11⅜	+1⅝
Motorola	43399	61⅛	58¾	59½	-1⅜
Iomega s	37846	18⅜	17⅛	17⅝	+¼
AT&T s	37533	34⅛	34	34⅜	-⅛
Seagate s	35780	52⅜	50⅜	51⅛	+¾
OffcDpt	35185	14⅜	14	14⅛	-⅛
FannieMae	34266	38⅜	37	38⅛	+1⅜
WalMart	33825	28⅜	27⅞	28⅛	+⅛
McDnlds	31378	49⅛	48¼	49⅝	+1⅛
HewlPk s	30192	53⅜	52⅛	53	+½
TexInst	29560	89⅝	85¼	89⅛	+3⅜

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
VkingOP s	193800	15¼	13⅞	14½	-5½
Cisco	121845	55¾	53¼	55¾	+⅝
Intel	105637	146¾	144⅝	146⅞	+1
WorldCm s	73355	24⅛	23¾	24	+⅛
Informix	69534	9⅞	8½	8⅝	-¼
Microsft s	66339	98¾	95½	98¼	+2⅜
Staples	61225	22⅜	21⅛	21⅞	-⅜
DellCpt s	60036	78½	73	78⅜	+5
RatnSft s	56150	14⅜	13⅝	14½	+⅞
Ascend	55388	49⅞	45⅞	48⅞	-1⅛
ParmTch	46053	40⅜	37½	39⅜	-1
RepInd s	43587	27⅜	26½	26⅞	-⅞
PhyCor s	42389	25⅜	23	24⅜	-⅛
Altera s	39170	51⅜	48⅜	50⅛	+¼
PureAtria	36036	10½	9⅞	9⅞	-⅞

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
SPDR	17646	76¾	75¾	76¾	+⅞
Nabors	10478	20	18⅜	20	+1¼
IvaxCp	9498	8⅞	7⅞	8⅞	+⅞
ViacB	7789	32⅛	31¼	31¼	-⅛
Harken	6480	4⅜	4⅛	4⅛	+⅛
CdLb	5354	12⅛	11½	12⅛	+⅜
BAT Ind	4617	17⅞	17	17¼	—
GrnwhdL	4465	4⅜	4½	4½	-⅛
TWA	3755	6⅞	6⅛	6¼	-¼
Amdhl	3568	9⅞	9¼	9⅞	+⅞

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1359	1740
Declined	1126	801
Unchanged	830	785
Total issues	3315	3326
New Highs	48	54
New Lows	50	44

Nasdaq

	Noon	Prev.
Advanced	1684	2329
Declined	1708	1678
Unchanged	2438	1743
Total issues	5759	5750
New Highs	41	56
New Lows	145	143

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	238	300
Declined	271	205
Unchanged	199	207
Total issues	708	712
New Highs	12	15
New Lows	22	11

Market Sales

	Today 4:00	Prev. cons.
NYSE	449.41	547.25
Amex	16.74	23.92
Nasdaq	480.18	568.27

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
Aegon NV ADR	-	.8518	5-15	6-6
Astra AB ADS	-	.5215	4-24	5-12
New Iberia	-	.08	4-18	4-30
Tadiran Ltd	-	.24	6-4	6-19
REVERSE STOCK SPLIT				
computer Mktplace 1 for 4 reverse split.				
INCREASED				
Meditrust	Q	.7125	4-30	5-15
INITIAL				
Plasti-Line	-	.50	4-8	
REGULAR				
Alamo Group	Q	.10	4-14	4-30
Food Lion A	Q	.0337	4-21	5-5
Food Lion B	Q	.0332	4-21	5-5
Hatteras Inco	M	.095	4-18	4-30
Hillenbrand Ind	Q	.165	4-25	5-30
Independence Sq	M	.115	4-22	4-30
Linc Ntl Cv Secur	Q	.24	4-18	4-30
Linc Ntl Inco	Q	.28	4-18	4-30
Nations Gv 2003	M	.0514	4-18	4-29
Nations Gv 2004	M	.0538	4-18	4-29
Oxford Indust	Q	.20	5-15	5-31

a-annual; b-approximate amount per share/ADR; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.

a - dividend also extra (s).
b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend.
c - liquidating dividend.
cc - PE exceeds 99.
cld - called.
d - new yearly low.
dd - loss in the last 12 months.
e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months.
f - annual rate, increased on last declaration.
g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax.
i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend.
j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting.
k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears.
m - annual rate, reduced on last declaration.
n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading.
nd - next day delivery.
p - initial dividend, annual rate unknown.
P/E - price-earnings ratio.
q - closed-end mutual fund.
r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend.
s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split.
sls - sales.
t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date.
u - new yearly high.
v - trading halted.
vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies.
wd - when distributed.
wi - when issued/
ww - with warrants.
x - ex-dividend or ex-rights.
xdis - ex-distribution.
xw - without warrants.
y- ex-dividend and sales in full.
yld - yield.
z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

April 8, 1997

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
Grains					
CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	302½	299	299½	—1¼	122,717
Jul 97	305¼	302	302½	—½	117,518
Sep 97	293½	290¾	291¼	+¼	19,803
Dec 97	292½	288½	289¾		94,773
Mar 98	296	293	293½	+¼	9,051
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 65,544					
Mon's open int 369,704 off 5510					
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton					
May 97	287.80	282.50	282.80	—4.60	43,476
Jul 97	285.30	279.90	280.00	—4.50	31,321
Aug 97	274.00	270.20	270.50	—2.10	9,297
Sep 97	256.00	252.80	253.60	—2.40	6,340
Oct 97	230.00	228.30	228.30	—0.50	6,156
Dec 97	222.80	220.70	220.70	—0.90	12,392
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 22,649					
Mon's open int 110,722 up 142					
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- cents per lb					
May 97	24.18	23.99	24.00	—0.16	36,001
Jul 97	24.59	24.32	24.35	—0.23	33,455
Aug 97	24.76	24.55	24.55	—0.20	7,632
Sep 97	24.86	24.67	24.67	—0.18	4,889
Oct 97	24.95	24.75	24.75	—0.20	4,969
Dec 97	25.20	24.98	24.98	—0.22	14,218
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 10,557					
Mon's open int 102,223 up 187					
SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	864¾	846	849¼	—13½	66,369
Jul 97	868½	852	853½	—14	70,375
Aug 97	850	837½	838¼	—10¾	10,891
Sep 97	761	750	751	—8	6,502
Nov 97	705¾	698	698¼	—6¾	37,982
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 71,375					
Mon's open int 195,444 off 120					
WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	388	381	382	+1½	20,625
Jul 97	389½	381	386	+2¾	45,867
Sep 97	392	385½	389¾	+3½	8,185
Dec 97	401½	395½	398½	+3½	6,975
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 21,186					
Mon's open int 82,156 off 998					
Livestock					
CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 97	67.47	66.87	67.17	+0.20	16,312
Jun 97	63.60	63.00	63.32	+0.07	35,624
Aug 97	63.75	63.35	63.62	+0.20	24,060
Oct 97	67.85	67.35	67.70	+0.35	15,041
Dec 97	69.80	69.40	69.70	+0.22	7,554
Feb 98	70.70	70.35	70.60	+0.20	4,354
Est. sales 15,432 Mon's. sales 23,039					
Mon's open int 103,588 off 1943					
FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 97	70.85	70.40	70.77	+0.15	2,619
May 97	69.90	69.55	69.87	—0.07	6,358
Aug 97	73.20	72.75	73.10		6,050
Sep 97	73.45	73.07	73.32	+0.05	1,642
Oct 97	73.95	73.70	73.92	+0.10	2,295
Nov 97	75.75	75.50	75.55		1,022
Est. sales 2,583 Mon's. sales 2,170					
Mon's open int 20,281 up 75					
HOGS-Lean (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 97	73.25	72.20	72.42	—0.97	4,355
Jun 97	81.45	80.57	80.97	—0.37	14,610
Jul 97	81.17	80.40	80.45	—0.47	4,166
Aug 97	78.95	78.20	78.35	—0.65	3,542
Oct 97	73.00	72.55	72.87	—0.20	2,720
Dec 97	71.00	70.55	70.62	—0.20	1,823
Est. sales 9,438 Mon's. sales 8,049					
Mon's open int 32,152 up 54					
PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	79.92	78.55	79.80	+0.82	3,661
Jul 97	78.70	77.65	78.65	+0.85	2,281
Aug 97	76.30	75.50	75.90	+0.57	566
Feb 98	72.60	71.42	71.42	—0.12	102
Mar 98			71.40	—0.20	8
May 98			74.00	+7.50	2
Est. sales 2,416 Mon's. sales 1,769					
Mon's open int 6,623 up 240					
Food					
COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton					
May 97	1403	1377	1400	+2	21,348
Jul 97	1444	1418	1440	+4	25,208
Sep 97	1464	1440	1464	+9	12,710
Dec 97	1486	1466	1485	+3	12,134
Mar 98	1505	1488	1505	+7	19,178
Est. sales 15,770 Mon's. sales 30,478					
Mon's open int 98,423 off 6938					
COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	180.80	176.00	178.75	—0.45	12,805
Jul 97	166.50	162.50	164.50	—0.55	10,169
Sep 97	153.25	152.00	152.75	—0.25	6,402
Dec 97	142.00	140.00	140.50	—1.40	3,460
Est. sales 5,250 Mon's. sales 6,464					
Mon's open int 33,628 off 2311					
SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	11.08	11.00	11.04	+0.04	60,327
Jul 97	10.84	10.75	10.80	+0.04	38,524
Oct 97	10.63	10.59	10.62	+0.02	28,367
Mar 98	10.63	10.59	10.61	+0.01	16,748
Est. sales 21,723 Mon's. sales 10,393					
Mon's open int 151,224 off 1420					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	76.00	72.60	72.80	—2.10	12,498
Jul 97	78.85	75.70	75.85	—2.25	8,147
Sep 97	81.75	79.00	79.00	—2.00	4,469
Nov 97	83.50	81.80	81.80	—1.65	1,958
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 1,988					
Mon's open int 28,445 off 559					
Metals					
GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Apr 97	349.50	348.20	348.60	+0.20	736
May 97			349.60	+0.10	2
Jun 97	352.30	350.50	351.20	+0.10	63,383
Aug 97	354.60	353.50	353.90	+0.10	13,356
Oct 97	357.40	356.60	356.60	+0.10	5,624
Dec 97	360.40	359.40	359.40		21,812
Feb 98			362.20		5,235
Apr 98			364.90		3,045
Est. sales 17,000 Mon's. sales 20,047					
Mon's open int 147,494 off 2703					
HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 97	108.50	107.50	108.45	+1.95	3,250
May 97	106.90	104.75	106.90	+2.15	21,222
Jun 97	105.95	104.70	105.95	+2.05	1,531
Jul 97	104.95	103.50	104.95	+1.80	8,738
Aug 97	104.20	103.50	104.20	+1.95	758
Sep 97	103.05	101.80	103.05	+1.70	4,287
Oct 97	102.70	101.40	102.70	+1.85	656
Nov 97	101.90	101.70	101.85	+1.50	771
Dec 97	101.25	100.25	101.25	+1.40	5,941
Est. sales 7,500 Mon's. sales 11,753					
Mon's open int 50,774 up 57					
SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.					
Apr 97			476.40	—0.90	2
May 97	482.50	475.00	478.00	—1.00	55,720
Jun 97			480.50	—1.00	6
Jul 97	487.50	480.00	482.90	—1.00	24,468
Sep 97	490.50	486.00	487.70	—1.00	3,872
Dec 97	498.50	493.00	495.10	—1.00	5,458
Jan 98	498.50	497.70	497.70	—1.00	16
Mar 98			502.90	—1.00	5,368
Est. sales 14,000 Mon's. sales 11,930					
Mon's open int 99,448 up 1323					
PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Apr 97	365.30	364.80	365.30	+0.80	70
May 97			388.50		
Jun 97			[illegible]		
Jul 97	371.00	368.20	369.30	+0.80	13,486
Oct 97	372.00	371.00	371.80	+0.80	2,219
Jan 98	374.00	374.00	374.00	+0.80	1,152
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 2,990					
Mon's open int 16,048 up 274					

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1547½	1548½	1550.00	1551.00
Forward	1582.00	1583.00	1585.00	1586.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2336.00	2339.00	2321.00	2324.00
Forward	2293.00	2294.00	2283.00	2284.00
Lead				
Spot	648½	649½	648.00	649.00
Forward	650½	651½	649.00	650.00
Nickel				
Spot	7195.00	7205.00	7175.00	7185.00
Forward	7310.00	7315.00	7290.00	7295.00
Tin				
Spot	5710.00	5720.00	5690.00	5695.00
Forward	5745.00	5750.00	5730.00	5731.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1232.00	1233.00	1227½	1228½
Forward	1256½	1257½	1253.00	1254.00

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Financial					
US T. BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.					
Jun 97	94.63	94.59	94.60	—0.01	6,899
Sep 97	94.32	94.29	94.29		3,399
Dec 97			94.48		847
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 675					
Mon's open int 10,289 up 187					
5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 64ths of 100 pct					
Jun 97	104-35	104-17	104-23	—07	225,935
Sep 97			104-14		696
Dec 97			104-01		10
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 25,645					
Mon's open int 226,631 off 75					
10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Jun 97	105-30	105-17	105-22	—05	321,456
Sep 97	105-11	105-03	105-05	—07	15,732
Dec 97			105-00		50
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 42,411					
Mon's open int 337,388 off 3140					
US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)					
Jun 97	107-24	107-06	107-14	—06	430,735
Sep 97	107-09	106-24	106-30	—08	34,543
Dec 97	106-27	106-15	106-20	—05	5,448
Mar 98	106-17	106-17	106-17	+ 02	1,450
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 237,574					
Mon's open int 472,343 off 5003					
LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Jun97	109-08	108-25	109-03	+ 0-02	181,598
Sep97	109-02	108-22	108-30	+ 0-04	742
Est. sales: 44,901. Prev. sales: 51,323					
Prev. open int.: 182,340 up 9,857					
GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	100.40	100.07	100.32	— 0.06	260,247
Sep97	99.36	99.12	99.23	— 0.03	5,087
Est. sales: 189,407. Prev. sales: 208,048					
Prev. open int.: 265,334 off 60					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 97	128.56	128.18	128.30	+0.10	160,841
Sep 97	126.86	126.60	126.66	+0.10	4,731
Dec 97	96.50	96.50	96.30	+0.10	0
Est. volume: 153,556 . Open int.: 165,572 off 6,122.					
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	127.55	126.50	127.04	— 0.46	109,178
Sep97	127.05	127.05	127.04	— 0.46	3,179
Est. sales: 78,779. Prev. sales: 72,202					
Prev. open int.: 112,357 up 890					
EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.					
Apr 97	94.19	94.17	94.17		38,964
May 97	94.11	94.09	94.10	—0.01	22,157
Jun 97	94.04	94.02	94.03	—0.01	508,757
Sep 97	93.73	93.70	93.72		392,214
Dec 97	93.44	93.40	93.42	—0.01	281,896
Mar 98	93.31	93.26	93.28	—0.01	205,459
Jun 98	93.20	93.15	93.17	—0.01	176,172
Sep 98	93.12	93.07	93.09	—0.01	135,408
Dec 98	93.03	92.97	92.99	—0.02	115,457
Mar 99	93.02	92.97	92.99	—0.01	88,869
Jun 99	92.99	92.94	92.95	—0.02	76,769
Sep 99	92.96	92.91	92.92	—0.02	60,774
Dec 99	92.90	92.85	92.86	—0.02	53,374
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 235,786					
Mon's open int 2,439,107 off 2780					
BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound					
Jun 97	1.6272	1.6180	1.6254		34,108
Sep 97	1.6230	1.6190	1.6210		834
Dec 97			1.6208		101
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 9,617					
Mon's open int 37,843 up 226					
CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr					
Jun 97	.7248	.7234	.7238		74,504
Sep 97	.7280	.7268	.7275		4,735
Dec 97	.7315	.7302	.7302		1,135
Mar 98			.7336		772
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 6,183					
Mon's open int 81,278 off 129					
GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark					
Jun 97	.5879	.5848	.5863		76,629
Sep 97	.5914	.5887	.5900		2,537
Dec 97	.5943	.5943	.5943		207
Mar 98			.6005		27
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 57,864					
Mon's open int 79,400 up 13897					
JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen					
Jun 97	.8056	.7981	.8000		75,084
Sep 97	.8160	.8098	.8115		1,189
Dec 97	.8244	.8244	.8244		547
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 30,314					
Mon's open int 76,820 up 5574					
SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc					
Jun 97	.6866	.6816	.6839		41,011
Sep 97	.6928	.6892	.6908		2,093
Dec 97	.6985	.6980	.6980		431
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 23,691					
Mon's open int 44,385 up 1450					
3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	93.34	93.28	93.33	+ 0.03	125,485
Sep97	93.05	92.95	93.04	+ 0.06	91,971
Dec97	92.81	92.71	92.80	+ 0.04	73,072
Mar98	92.66	92.56	92.65	+ 0.05	47,951
Jun98	92.57	92.45	92.54	+ 0.04	39,690
Sep98	92.50	92.38	92.46	+ 0.04	25,504
Dec98	92.39	92.30	92.38	+ 0.04	20,745
Mar99	92.34	92.25	92.33	+ 0.05	12,729
Jun99	92.28	92.20	92.28	+ 0.06	9,182
Sep99	92.21	92.16	92.21	+ 0.05	8,202
Dec99	92.13	92.12	92.18	+ 0.06	4,019
Mar00	92.10	92.07	92.13	+ 0.06	1,792
Est. sales: 80,202. Prev. sales: 85,951					
Prev. open int.: 462,302 up 9,676					
3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Apr97	96.77	96.77	96.76	— 0.01	10,330
May97	N.T.	N.T.	96.76	— 0.01	3,111
Jun97	96.77	96.74	96.74	— 0.02	233,463
Sep97	96.71	96.67	96.68	— 0.01	185,335
Dec97	96.54	96.50	96.52	— 0.01	210,464
Mar98	96.38	96.34	96.35	— 0.01	157,165
Jun98	96.20	96.14	96.16	— 0.01	135,403
Sep98	95.99	95.93	95.95	— 0.01	107,004
Dec98	95.73	95.68	95.69	— 0.01	73,764
Mar99	95.47	95.42	95.43	— 0.01	61,270
Jun99	95.16	95.14	95.15	— 0.01	32,906
Sep99	94.89	94.86	94.87	Unch.	26,372
Dec99	94.63	94.59	94.60	Unch.	29,643
Mar00	94.37	94.34	94.35	Unch.	6,788
Jun00	N.T.	N.T.	94.14	Unch.	1,463
Sep00	N.T.	N.T.	93.94	Unch.	2,716
Dec00	N.T.	N.T.	93.76	Unch.	1,365
Mar01	N.T.	N.T.	93.58	Unch.	307
Est. sales: 118,397. Prev. sales: 161,186					
Prev. open int.: 1,281,069 up 24,814					
3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 97	96.71	96.67	96.68	— 0.01	59,212
Sep 97	96.62	96.58	96.60	+ 0.00	49,090
Dec 97	96.51	96.47	96.48	+ 0.01	30,909
Mar 98	96.37	96.32	96.33	+ 0.01	24,057
Jun 98	96.17	96.12	96.15	+ 0.03	18,093
Sep 98	95.98	95.94	95.95	+ 0.01	18,377
Dec 98	95.74	95.71	95.72	+ 0.02	12,505
Mar 99	95.49	95.47	95.48	+ 0.02	11,587
Jun 99	95.22	95.22	95.22	+ 0.03	6,592
Sep 99	94.95	94.95	94.95	+ 0.03	4,311
Dec 99	94.72	94.71	94.71	+ 0.03	5,827
Mar 00	94.47	94.47	94.47	+ 0.02	1,575
Est. volume: 48,067. Open int.: 242,135 up 9,262.					
3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	93.17	92.97	93.03	— 0.12	111,671
Sep97	93.50	93.32	93.39	— 0.10	66,410
Dec97	93.62	93.42	93.49	— 0.10	40,496
Mar98	93.60	93.42	93.49	— 0.10	25,533
Jun98	93.55	93.39	93.44	— 0.10	16,075

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
Sep98	93.40	93.35	93.37	— 0.08	4,018
Dec98	93.30	93.24	93.30	— 0.08	410
Mar99	93.23	93.14	93.21	— 0.12	626
Est. sales: 63,958. Prev. sales: 75,972					
Prev. open int.: 265,439 up 3,217					
Industrials					
COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	72.92	71.90	72.25	—0.64	31,413
Jul 97	74.57	73.62	73.98	—0.62	19,523
Oct 97	75.60	75.00	75.25	—0.30	1,931
Dec 97	76.45	76.00	76.27	—0.15	22,233
Mar 98	77.40	77.15	77.25	—0.20	2,425
May 98	78.00	77.90	78.00	—0.20	564
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 10,483					
Mon's open int 78,981 up 376					
HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
May 97	53.65	52.85	52.85	—0.27	35,635
Jun 97	53.10	52.30	52.40	—0.18	23,376
Jul 97	53.25	52.75	52.75	—0.13	18,385
Aug 97	53.85	53.40	53.45	—0.03	10,154
Sep 97	54.65	54.28	54.55	+0.27	6,998
Oct 97	55.40	55.05	55.15	+0.07	7,715
Nov 97	56.30	55.80	55.90	+0.07	6,216
Dec 97	56.90	56.50	56.65	+0.17	10,806
Jan 98	57.35	56.85	57.05	+0.17	6,312
Feb 98	57.20	56.90	56.95	+0.22	2,911
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 29,272					
Mon's open int 137,531 up 4682					
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.					
May 97	19.50	19.28	19.30	+0.07	82,224
Jun 97	19.57	19.29	19.42	+0.08	67,625
Jul 97	19.57	19.40	19.48	+0.03	35,857
Aug 97	19.59	19.44	19.50	+0.09	24,623
Sep 97	19.62	19.53	19.53	+0.08	16,822
Oct 97	19.62	19.55	19.55	+0.08	15,579
Nov 97	19.62	19.54	19.55	+0.06	12,831
Dec 97	19.66	19.51	19.52	+0.07	29,364
Jan 98	19.58	19.58	19.58	+0.05	14,137
Feb 98	19.60	19.60	19.60	+0.05	7,673
Mar 98			19.58		3,558
Apr 98	19.59	19.59	19.57	+0.02	3,695
May 98			19.58		4,205
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 92,379					
Mon's open int 411,345 up 2575					
NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu					
May 97	1.975	1.920	1.935		32,576
Jun 97	2.020	1.975	1.990		17,492
Jul 97	2.045	2.000	2.005		14,085
Aug 97	2.045	2.015	2.015		10,162
Sep 97	2.050	2.020	2.020		10,401
Oct 97	2.070	2.040	2.040		11,443
Nov 97	2.200	2.175	2.185		6,461
Dec 97	2.350	2.320	2.325		10,241
Jan 98	2.385	2.370	2.370		10,409
Feb 98	2.320	2.300	2.300		4,715
Mar 98	2.205	2.183	2.183		4,283
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 26,764					
Mon's open int 169,759 up 1038					
UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
May 97	61.85	60.50	60.95	+0.22	42,228
Jun 97	61.25	60.10	60.40	+0.09	27,597
Jul 97	60.20	59.45	59.55	+0.04	10,936
Aug 97	59.85	58.60	58.85	+0.34	5,134
Sep 97	57.70	57.50	57.70	+0.49	2,590
Oct 97			55.56		1,656
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 26,920					
Mon's open int 96,599 up 1866					
GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons					
Apr 97	163.50	161.25	162.75	—4.00	15,645
May 97	164.75	162.25	164.00	—5.00	16,560
Jun 97	166.00	164.00	165.25	—6.00	9,899
Jul 97	167.50	166.25	167.00	—6.00	5,836
Aug 97	169.25	168.00	169.00	—5.75	3,420
Sept 97	171.25	170.00	170.75	—5.75	1,618
Oct 97	172.75	171.25	172.50	—5.50	2,019
Nov 97	174.25	174.25	173.75	—5.25	875
Dec 97	175.00	174.00	174.50	—5.75	7,186
Jan 98	174.75	174.75	175.00	—5.75	1,254
Est. sales: 19,378. Open int.: 65,695 off 1,579					
BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels					
May 97	18.09	17.80	17.93	+0.17	44,216
June 97	18.28	18.05	18.10	+0.13	56,336
July 97	18.40	18.20	18.24	+0.10	21,756
Aug 97	18.49	18.31	18.35	+0.10	10,216
Sep 97	18.50	18.40	18.37	+0.07	7,341
Oct 97	18.53	18.41	18.39	+0.06	6,499
Nov97	18.55	18.45	18.40	+0.04	4,963
Dec97	18.60	18.44	18.40	+0.03	7,955
Jan98	18.56	18.47	18.39	Unch.	6,862
Est. sales: 40,983. Open int.: 170,296 up 2,130					
Stock Indexes					
S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER) 500 x index					
Jun 97	768.80	763.60	767.70	+0.40	178,457
Sep 97	775.60	771.30	775.40	+0.20	4,641
Dec 97	782.50	782.50	782.50	—1.05	3,897
Mar 98			792.95		90
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 70,384					
Mon's open int 186,275 up 1508					
FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point					
Jun97	4392.0	4302.0	4382.0	— 13.0	60,498
Sep97	4318.0	4318.0	4307.0	— 13.0	3,495
Est. sales: 8,718. Prev. sales: 9,803					
Prev. open int.: 63,933 off 1,357					
CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point					
Apr 97	2590.0	2570.0	2582.0	— 1.00	34,147
May 97	2572.0	2567.0	2567.5	— 1.00	3,845
Jun 97	2548.0	2537.0	2543.0	— 1.00	29,121
Sep 97	2561.0	2551.0	2557.5	— 1.00	8,701
Dec 97	N.T.	N.T.	2577.5	— 1.00	0
Mar 98	N.T.	N.T.	2607.0	— 1.00	7,637
Sep 98	N.T.	N.T.	2580.0	— 1.00	1,210
Est. volume: 12,402. Open int.: 64,671 up 14.					

مكتبة الأهرام

Weather Helps Bonn On Jobless

Unemployment Falls As Building Resumes

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NUREMBERG — Unemployment fell in March for the first time in a year, the government said Tuesday, although analysts warned that the still-high jobless rate would continue to frustrate Bonn's efforts to slash its deficit in time to launch Europe's planned common currency.

The number of unemployed workers fell by 194,702 last month as warmer weather prompted construction companies in Eastern Germany to rehire staff, the Labor Office reported. After adjusting for seasonal factors, the number of jobless workers was down 15,000.

German central bank figures, also issued Tuesday, put the seasonally adjusted jobless rate at 11.2 percent of the work force, down from 11.3 percent in February. Unadjusted data from the Labor Office put the rate at 11.7 percent, down from 12.2 the previous month.

Despite the fall, the Labor Office said there was little sign that the economy was creating new jobs.

With 4.5 million Germans still out of work and no relief in sight for the labor market this year, the federal government's goal of cutting its budget deficit to 3 percent of gross domestic product is becoming increasingly distant.

"It's going to be very, very tight for the government," Eberhard Scholz, an economist at Bayerische Vereinsbank AG in Munich, said. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

■ Swiss Rate Improves

Switzerland's unemployment rate unexpectedly fell to 5.6 percent last month from a record 5.7 percent in February, but economists said the country's economy was not likely to show strong growth this year, Bloomberg Business News reported from Zurich.

There were 202,207 people registered as unemployed at the end of March, the government said, down from 206,291 in February, but "it's too early to be talking about a turning point," Thomas Heller, an economist at Credit Suisse, said.

Moscow Faces Another Budget Battle

Tax Shortfall Could Trigger a New Debate With Parliament Soon on Cuts

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — Slumping tax revenue may force the government to slash spending across the board this year to keep its reform efforts on track, opening the door to a new dispute with the conservative lower house of Parliament.

The 1997 budget, approved this year only after prolonged negotiation and debate, says the government must ask Parliament to approve new, lower spending proposals if revenue is more than 10 percent below planned levels.

Now, with Russia's tax-collection difficulties continuing, government ministers say lower spending is the only way to resolve the problems, and plans for spending cuts might have to be presented as early as this month.

"Tax collection is lower, not only compared to the budget but also compared to last year," said Yevsei Gurvich, an economist with the Finance Ministry. The revenue shortfall so far this year has been estimated at $8.8 billion.

Plans for lower spending will reopen the bitter arguments of the last budget round, when deputies in the lower house of Parliament assailed the government for making unrealistic plans and demanded cash for companies and individuals who had lost out when reforms got under way.

"The Finance Ministry has to adopt a plan, and the Duma has to accept or reject it," said Roland Nash, chief economist at Renaissance Capital, a research firm. "It means a whole new budget round — a smaller one, but a new round nonetheless."

Analysts said reduced spending and a more realistic budget could help Russia out of its lengthy economic slump, provided the new government team held to its ambitious plans to restructure the economy.

"If they can manage to hang things together this year and keep inflation under control, one would expect the economy to start to pick up this year," Vladimir Konovalov, an economist for the World Bank, said. *(Reuters, AP)*

■ Germany Backs Russian G-7 Role

President Roman Herzog of Germany expressed support for a larger Russian role in the Group of Seven, despite Japan's reservations about the idea, Agence France-Presse reported from Tokyo.

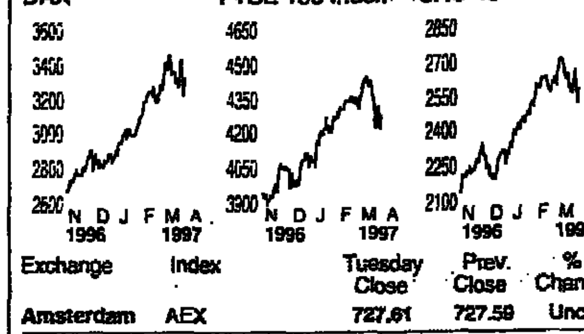
Mr. Herzog said Moscow was "still a world power" after the end of the Cold War despite its economic difficulties.

Japanese leaders have opposed an increased role for Russia, saying Moscow was not yet entitled to discuss international monetary and economic problems with the Group of Seven, which is made up of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States. But the group's scheduled meeting in June in Denver will be called the Summit of Eight.

Apart from economic issues, Japan has cited Tokyo's long-standing territorial dispute with Moscow over the Kurile Islands, which Russia seized from Japan at the end of World War II.

Still, Japan is close to an agreement to lend Russia $500 million for a range of projects, Kensaku Kumabe, the head of mission of the Japanese Export-Import Bank, said.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	727.61	727.59	Unch.
Brussels	BEL-20	2,114.43	2,115.85	-0.07
Frankfurt	DAX	3,329.76	3,312.88	+0.51
Copenhagen	Stock Market	527.14	520.94	+1.19
Helsinki	HEX General	2,836.30	2,821.86	+0.51
Oslo	OBX	589.76	589.08	+0.12
London	FTSE 100	4,269.20	4,271.60	-0.06
Madrid	Stock Exchange	477.02	473.06	+0.84
Milan	MIBTEL	11920	11,931.00	-0.09
Paris	CAC 40	2,579.00	2,577.78	+0.05
Stockholm	SX 16	2,856.47	2,875.07	-0.65
Vienna	ATX	1,186.13	1,178.29	+0.67
Zurich	SPI	2,898.96	2,903.15	-0.14

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Paris Moves to Extend Business Hours for Banks

Reuters

PARIS — The French government will revise a 60-year-old decree to allow banks to open six days a week instead of five, the labor minister, Jacques Barrot, said Tuesday.

Mr. Barrot said banks and unions had failed to reach an agreement on the proposals to change the banking regulations and that the government had unilaterally decided to repeal the 1937 decree and to allow bank branches to stay open from Monday to Saturday.

Unions called a one-day strike for Friday, saying that the government was preparing to change banking regulations without sufficient negotiation. Mr. Barrot said he would propose a new decree that also would allow banks to open from 7:30 A.M. to 8:30 P.M., ending the current eight-hour limit.

"The 1937 decree belongs to an era, that of 1937," Mr. Barrot said. "People need to be able to go to the bank on Saturday."

Mr. Barrot said the decree requires banks to convene a meeting with an employees council if changes in opening hours had not won workers' approval.

Mr. Barrot said that the French commercial banking association had agreed that the new decree would be put in to practice gradually and that the association believed greater flexibility could preserve about 9,000 jobs.

■ Suez-Lyonnaise Deal Friday

The chairman of Lyonnaise des Eaux SA, a French utilities group, said Tuesday he hoped a merger with Compagnie de Suez SA, a conglomerate, would be approved Friday, creating a global player with Suez's chairman, Gerard Mestrallet, as chief executive, Reuters reported.

Lyonnaise's chairman, Jerome Monod, rebutted speculation that the merged company — already approved in principle — would be run by a single executive board headed by himself.

Mr. Monod made the comments in an interview published in Le Figaro newspaper, in which he also said he wanted the new company to be called Suez-Lyonnaise des Eaux.

Very briefly:

- **Lasmo PLC**'s shares surged 5 percent to close at 234 pence ($3.81) after the oil-exploration company said it had tapped a "substantial" natural-gas discovery in Pakistan.
- **Poland** said that as many as 100,000 people working for coal-mining companies would lose their jobs by 2000 as it reported that Polish mines lost 1.6 billion zloty ($519.5 million) last year.
- **Mickey Kantor**, the former U.S. commerce secretary, suggested that the United States, the European Union and the countries of the Middle East create an organization similar in scope to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.
- **South African Airways**' formal complaint against a link between **British Airways PLC** and the South African carrier **Comair** was overruled.
- **Spain**'s trade unions agreed in principle to a relaxation of labor laws as part of a government plan to cut unemployment.
- **Television par Satellite**, a French satellite-television broadcaster, denied a report that the Belgian businessman Albert Frere was considering selling his 28 percent stake in the company.
- **Shigeru Myojin**, the head of proprietary trading and risk-management at **Salomon Brothers Inc.** in London, had income of $31 million last year, The Times of London reported.
- **AO Lukoil Holding**, a Russian oil company, plans to raise 4.5 trillion rubles ($784.5 million) by selling debt and global depositary receipts.
- **OMV AG**, Austria's oil and gas producer and its largest company, said its 1996 net profit rose 14 percent, to 1.98 billion schillings ($165.1 million), as it gained market share and streamlined its corporate structure.
- **Jefferson Smurfit Group PLC**'s 1996 pretax profit fell to 201 million Irish punts ($312.6 million) from 420 million punts in 1995, in line with expectations, because of a slump in global paper prices and overcapacity in the industry.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP

Volvo Denies Plans to Buy Mack Trucks From Renault

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STOCKHOLM — Volvo AB and Renault denied Tuesday that the Swedish automaker was considering buying the U.S. truckmaker Mack Trucks Inc. from Renault.

Volvo said, however, that it was holding talks with Mitsubishi Motors Corp. about working together.

The Swedish daily Svenska Dagbladet reported that Volvo was interested in acquiring Mack Trucks from the French automaker to double its market share in the United States to 19 percent.

The move also would give the Swedish company access to Mack's distribution network in the United States, the paper said, quoting unidentified sources.

But a Volvo spokesman said, "We have no concrete plans with any other heavy-truck maker than Mitsubishi of Japan."

For its part, Renault denied having any plan to leave the truck industry. The company referred to a statement made March 20 by its chairman, Louis Schweitzer, that its truck unit, Renault VI, "is part of our historic operations, and we anticipate that it will continue as such in the future."

Renault VI had a loss of 791 million French francs ($138 million) in 1996. Mack posted an operating profit of $29 million last year on sales of $2.14 billion.

Volvo previously said it expected its North American truck division to break even this year.

Volvo and Renault called off a planned merger in 1994 but continue to cooperate on purchases of parts and in other areas. Renault owns 7.7 percent of Volvo, and Volvo owns 11.4 percent of Renault. *(Bloomberg, AFP)*

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, April 8
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam
AEX Index: 727.61 Previous: 727.59

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	126.10	124	124.90	125.30
Aegon	127.70	126.50	127	127.50
Ahold	130.90	129.30	130.50	129.70
Akzo Nobel	268.40	266.30	267.50	267.30
Baan Co.	98.90	89	90.50	89.50
Bols Wess cva	36.10	34.90	36.10	35.10
CSM cva	109	105	108.50	106.80
Dordtsche Pet	349	346.50	347.40	349.40
DSM	187	183.80	186.50	184
Elsevier	31.10	30.50	30.80	30.70
Fortis Amev	71	69.60	70.10	70.50
Getronics	60	59.50	59.70	59.50
G-Broc cva	61.20	59.60	61.20	60.10
Hagemeyer	160	157.30	159.50	158.40
Heineken	322	319	320.10	321.90
Hoogovens cva	92.50	90.50	90.90	91.10
Hunt Douglas	153.50	148.80	150.20	148
ING Group	74	72.40	73.30	73.40
KLM	56.80	56.10	56.30	56.40
KNP BT	39.90	39.50	39.90	39.70
KPN	69.10	68.20	68.20	68.70
Nedlloyd Gp	48.30	47.20	47.60	46.20
Nutricia	286.50	283.50	283.50	284
Oce Grinten	238.70	235.60	237.90	238.80
Philips Elec	90	88	88.80	87.70
Polygram	97.50	94.90	95	97.20
Randstad Hdg	160.90	159.50	160.70	160
Robeco	159.30	158.20	158.20	156.30
Rodamco	61	59.70	59.70	59.90
Rolinco	162.10	162.30	162.30	160.30
Rorento	108.50	108.30	108.30	107.80
Royal Dutch	326.40	324	326	326.70
Unilever cva	348.70	346.80	348.70	347.80
Vendex Intl	90.60	88.90	88.90	89.80
VNU	39.70	39.10	39.40	39.30
Wolters Kl cva	235	229.60	230.80	231.50

Bangkok
SET Index: 715.36 Previous: 714.89

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	236	230	234	224
Bangkok Bk F	0.00	0.00	0.00	278
Krung Thai Bk	39.25	37.75	38	38.75
PTT Explor	346	340	342	340
Siam Cement F	0.00	0.00	0.00	672
Siam Com Bk F	0.00	0.00	0.00	179
Telecomasia	46.50	45.25	46.50	45
Thai Airways	46	45	45.50	45
Thai Farm Bk F	0.00	0.00	0.00	185
Utd Comm	171	166	166	166

Market Closed

The Bombay Stock market was closed Tuesday for a holiday.

Brussels
BEL-20 Index: 2114.43 Previous: 2115.85

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Almanij	13400	13200	13400	13000
Barco Ind	5950	5870	5880	5910
BBL	7710	7660	7710	7690
CBR	3395	3325	3365	3395
Colruyt	14275	14125	14125	14275
Delhaize Lion	1770	1740	1760	1725
Electrabel	7860	7820	7850	7840
Electrafina	3500	3420	3500	3460
Fortis AG	5980	5940	5970	5950
Gevaert	2570	2525	2540	2535
GBL	5120	5080	5090	5050
Gen Banque	13875	13675	13775	13875
Kredietbank	12500	12250	12300	12475
Petrofina	12200	11850	11925	11875
Powerfin	4900	4830	4830	4900
Royale Belge	8830	8680	8800	8830
Soc Gen Belg	3000	2970	2985	3000
Solvay	20550	20425	20475	20525
Tractebel	14850	14675	14700	14875
UCB	89200	88750	89000	88750

Copenhagen
Stock Index: 527.14 Previous: 520.94

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
BG Bank	290	286	287	297
Carlsberg B	387	381	386	381
Codan Fors	880	870	870	870
Danisco	389	376.42	387	383
Den Danske Bk	552.45	550	550	553
D/S Svenborg B	265265	263329	264000	264000
D/S 1912 B	185000	183000	183000	182000
FLS Ind B	886	880	885	872.81
Kob Lufthavne	666	641	645	643
Nvo Nordisk B	670	652	670	654
Sophus Ber B	825	812	825	807
Tele Danmk B	344	338	342	338
Tryg Baltica	343	339	340	340
Unidanmark A	349	344	347	344

Frankfurt
DAX: 3329.76 Previous: 3312.88

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB B	1350	1350	1350	1350
Adidas	183.50	179	180.20	182.50
Allianz Hdg	3254	3211	3219	3253
Altana	1365	1359	1359	1358
Bk Berlin	32.70	32.50	32.65	32.55
BASF	66.20	65.65	65.90	65.95
Bayer Hypo Bk	57.60	56	56.30	55.50
Bay.Vereinsbank	67.90	66.20	66.28	67
Bayer	69.60	69	69.32	68.80
Beiersdorf	89.90	89.50	89.80	89
Bewag	453	446	446	446
BMW	1341	1307	1341	1282
CKAG Colonia	151	149	151	149
Commerzbank	47.20	46.30	46.38	46.10
Daimler Benz	129.90	129	129.60	128.80
Degussa	707.50	701.50	705	704.50
Deutsche Bank	91.40	90.60	90.85	90.60
Deut Telekom	37.55	37.15	37.55	37.03
Dresdner Bank	59.60	58.70	58.70	58.60
Fresenius	352	347	347	348
Fresenius Med	152.50	149.70	149.70	152.30
Fried. Krupp	310	306	309	306
Gehe	114	112.50	113	114.50
Heidelbg Zmt	143	142	142.50	141.50
Henkel pfd	88.50	88	88.30	87.40
HEW	492	492	0.00	0.00
Hochtief	71.50	70.50	71	72
Hoechst	67.35	66.90	67.12	66.60
Karstadt	530	521.20	528	533
Linde	1135	1108	1112	1110
Lufthansa	22.40	21.90	22.20	22.70
MAN	459	453.50	458	453.50
Mannesmann	638.50	632	634.50	638
Metallgesellschaft	36.50	36.10	36.35	36.78
Metro	158.50	157.50	158	158
Munch Rueck R	4157	4135	4145	4157
Preussag	436.50	432	436	435
Rheinelektra	1240	1225	1240	1225
RWE	68.50	68.20	68.40	68.35
SAP pfd	289	281	287.80	279.50
Schering	168.40	166.50	168	166.50
SGL Carbon	234	231	233.50	232.50
Siemens	87.93	87.22	87.65	87.55
Springer (Axel)	1280	1280	0.00	0.00
Suedzucker	830	825	829	845
Thyssen	357	354.50	356.60	356
Veba	91.10	89.70	90.30	89.40
VEW	500	499	499	500
Viag	745.50	742.50	745.50	741.25
Volkswagen	923	919	921.70	911.50

Helsinki
HEX General Index: 2836.30 Previous: 2821.86

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Enso A	43	41.20	41.80	43.20
Huhtamaki I	246	243	243	242.50
Kemira	53	51.80	52	51.50
Kesko	72.50	71.50	71.50	71
Merita A	16.90	16.20	16.40	16.40
Metra B	146	143.40	145	280.30
Metso-Serla B	39	37.70	37.70	38
Neste	126	125	126	125.50
Nokia A	310	305	305	301
Orion-Yhtymae	197.90	194.80	197	194.50
Outokumpu A	89.50	88.50	89.50	88
UPM-Kymmene	113	111	111	111
Valmet	87.50	87	87	86.10

Hong Kong
Hang Seng: 12298.57 Previous: 12287.84

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	8.20	8.15	8.20	8.10
Bk East Asia	26.15	26	26.10	26.05
Cathay Pacific	12	11.75	12	11.75
Cheung Kong	65.25	64	65	64.75
CK Infrastruct	21.80	21.60	21.70	21.50
China Light	33.50	33.40	33.50	33.50
Citic Pacific	37.90	37.40	37.70	37.50
Dao Heng Bk	34	33.80	34	33.40
First Pacific	9.90	9.70	9.90	9.65
Hang Lung Dev	14.65	14.60	14.65	14.60
Hang Seng Bk	79.75	78.50	79.75	78.50
Henderson Inv	7.90	7.70	7.90	7.70
Henderson Ld	64	62.25	63.75	62.50
HK China Gas	14.60	14.50	14.60	14.55
HK Electric	27.25	27.20	27.30	27.30
HK Telecomm	13.40	13.20	13.35	13.30
Hopewell Hdgs	4.05	4	4.03	4
HSBC Hdgs	180.50	179	180.50	178.50
Hutchison Wh	56	55	55.50	55.50
Hysan Dev	23.10	22.90	23	22.95
Johnson El Hdg	19.50	19	19	19
Kerry Props	18	17.80	18	17.75
New World Dev	41.60	41.30	41.50	41.30
Oriental Press	2.95	2.93	2.95	2.93
Pearl Oriental	5.90	5.80	5.90	5.80
SHK Props	79	78	79	77.75
Shun Tak Hdgs	5.15	5.05	5.15	5.10
Sino Land Co.	7.55	7.45	7.55	7.50
Sth China Post	6.90	6.60	6.90	6.65
Swire Pac A	61.25	60.25	60.50	60.75
Wharf Hdgs	31.60	30.90	31.30	30.50
Wheelock	16.90	16.70	16.90	16.80

Jakarta
Composite Index: 638.22 Previous: 636.64

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	5850	5800	5850	5850
Bk Intl Indon	1775	1725	1775	1725
Bk Negara	1350	1275	1350	1300
Gudang Garm	10250	10225	10225	10200
Indocement	3125	3100	3125	3125
Indofood	5200	4750	4800	5050
Indosat	6400	6350	6350	6425
Sampoerna HM	10375	10275	10300	10300
Semen Gresik	5900	5800	5800	5900
Telekomunikasi	3600	3550	3575	3575

Johannesburg
All Market: 7044.13 Previous: 7074.73

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amalgamtd Bks	29.50	29	29	29
AngloAm Coal	295	295	295.55	295.25
AngloAm Corp	277	276	277	277
AngloAm Gold	307	305	307	307
AngloAm Ind	179	178.75	179	179
AVMIN	18.30	18.25	18.30	18.30
Barlow	49.50	48.35	49.25	49.25
C.G. Smith	26.25	26	26.25	26.25
De Beers	166	163.50	164.75	164.75
Driefontein	42	41.30	41.25	41.25
Fst Natl Bk	32.50	30.50	30.20	30.20
Gencor	19.75	19.50	19.75	19.75
GFSA	110	107	107	107
Imperial Hdgs	56.25	55	54.50	54.50
Ingwe Coal	28.50	28.25	28.25	28.25
Iscor	3.40	3.32	3.44	3.44
Johnnies Indl	59.75	58.75	59.75	59.75
Liberty Hldgs	329	326	326	326
Liberty Life	125.25	124.75	125	125
LibLife Strat	15.40	15.20	15.65	15.65
Minorco	100.75	99.75	100.75	100.75
Nampak	18.70	18.40	19	19
Nedcor	89	85.75	89	89
Rembrandt Gp	47	46.35	46.90	46.90
Richemont	57	56.25	54.75	54.75
Rust Platinum	68.50	67	69	69
SA Brewaries	137.50	136	137.50	137.50
Samancor	53.25	53.25	53.25	53.25
Sasol	50.25	49.25	49.50	49.50
SBIC	184.50	184	184.25	184.25
Tiger Oats	78.50	78.25	78.50	78.50

Kuala Lumpur
Composite: 1162.25 Previous: 1134.23

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMMB Hdgs	19	18.60	18.90	18.60
Genting	15.50	15.10	15.10	15.10
Mal Banking	27.25	26.50	27.25	26.50
Mal Intl Ship F	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	5.90
Petronas Gas	9.05	8.80	9.05	8.90
Proton	15.60	15.20	15.60	15.10
Public Bk	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50
Renong	3.90	3.72	3.90	3.72
Resorts World	10.40	10.10	10.20	10
Rothmans PM	22.60	22.50	22.50	22.60
Sime Darby	8.65	8.35	8.60	8.45
Telekom Mal	19.50	18.80	19.50	18.80
Tenaga	12.20	11.60	12	11.60
Utd Engineers	20.50	19.90	20.40	19.80
YTL	12.30	12	12.30	12

London
FT-SE 100: 4269.20 Previous: 4271.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	7.71	7.60	7.70	7.61
Allied Domecq	4.52	4.41	4.41	4.49
Anglian Water	6.39	6.30	6.33	6.39
Argos	6.80	6.68	6.73	6.78
Asda Group	1.13	1.08	1.12	1.08
Assoc Br Foods	5.31	5.28	5.29	5.29
BAA	5.09	4.99	4.99	5.07
Barclays	10.90	10.50	10.64	10.53
Bass	8.22	8.13	8.13	8.18
BAT Ind	5.26	5.17	5.22	5.17
Bank Scotland	3.23	3.18	3.22	3.22
Blue Circle	4.12	4.06	4.08	4.09
BOC Group	9.47	9.40	9.40	9.43
Boots	6.87	6.78	6.86	6.84
BPB Ind	3.33	3.27	3.30	3.29
Brit Aerosp	13.62	13.48	13.56	13.60
Brit Airways	6.44	6.39	6.43	6.41
BG	1.80	1.76	1.80	1.79
Brit Land	5.47	5.42	5.44	5.44
Brit Petm	6.88	6.78	6.84	6.79
BSkyB	6.18	5.83	5.88	6.10
Brit Steel	1.56	1.51	1.52	1.60
Brit Telecom	4.35	4.30	4.32	4.33
BTR	2.57	2.51	2.54	2.56
Burmah Castrol	10.14	9.95	9.96	10.14
Burton Gp	1.54	1.52	1.54	1.53
Cable Wireless	5.05	4.91	4.93	5.02
Cadbury Schw	5.45	5.27	5.30	5.35
Carlton Comm	5.23	5.17	5.19	5.18
Coml Union	6.54	6.38	6.47	6.53
Compass Gp	6.67	6.62	6.62	6.63
Courtaulds	3.52	3.45	3.48	3.50
Dixons	5.51	5.37	5.37	5.48
Electrocomponents	4	3.98	3.98	4
EMI Group	11.61	11.45	11.59	11.57
Energy Group	5.03	4.95	4.96	5.02
Enterprise Oil	6.24	6.15	6.20	6.20
Fam Colonial	1.52	1.51	1.52	1.52
Genl Accident	8.08	7.99	8.05	8.03
GEC	3.98	3.76	3.78	3.85
GKN	9.90	9.81	9.89	9.82
Glaxo Wellcome	11.05	10.78	10.82	10.86
Granada Gp	9.15	9.07	9.11	9.15
Grand Met	4.85	4.78	4.80	4.80
GRE	2.79	2.56	2.77	2.78
Greenalls Gp	5.33	5.28	5.28	5.31
Guinness	5.03	4.95	4.96	5.01
GUS	6.40	6.30	6.31	6.40
Hays	5.33	5.30	5.30	5.29
HSBC Hdgs	14.36	14.28	14.36	14.27
ICI	7.50	7.17	7.19	7.15
Impl Tobacco	4.12	4.08	4.08	4.11
Kingfisher	6.75	6.70	6.74	6.74
Ladbroke	2.27	2.21	2.21	2.25
Land Sec	7.77	7.70	7.76	7.73
Lasmo	2.35	2.25	2.34	2.23
Legal Genl Grp	3.95	3.88	3.91	3.92
Lloyds TSB Gp	5.12	4.97	5.03	5.01
LucasVarity	2.07	2.04	2.05	2.04
Marks Spencer	4.95	4.88	4.90	4.95
MEPC	4.67	4.62	4.66	4.60
Mercury Asset	12.66	12.45	12.50	12.63
National Grid	2.11	2.09	2.10	2.12
Natl Power	5.08	4.98	5	5.03
NatWest	7.28	6.99	7.04	7.02
Next	6.32	6.20	6.23	6.18
Orange	2.09	2.06	2.08	2.09
P&O	6.51	6.14	6.28	6.18
Pearson	7.35	7.25	7.32	7.34
Pilkington	1.21	1.18	1.20	1.20
PowerGen	6.12	6.04	6.07	6.10
Premier Farnell	4.59	4.55	4.55	4.59
Prudential	5.67	5.54	5.58	5.64
Railtrack PP	4.25	4.17	4.20	4.24
Rank Group	4.51	4.33	4.35	4.49
Reckitt Colm	7.91	7.82	7.83	7.90
Redland	3.58	3.52	3.52	3.60
Reed Intl	11.43	11.20	11.27	11.24
Rentokil Initial	4.10	4.05	4.09	4.07
Reuters Hdgs	6.09	5.93	5.98	6.01
Rexam	3.34	3.25	3.25	3.33
RMC Group	9.89	9.67	9.75	9.86
Rolls Royce	2.45	2.41	2.43	2.44
Royal Bk Scot	5.47	5.38	5.42	5.37
RTZ reg	9.73	9.45	9.56	9.56
Royal & Sun All	4.57	4.38	4.39	4.44
Safeway	3.71	3.64	3.69	3.65
Sainsbury	3.34	3.25	3.29	3.33
Schroders	15.99	15.80	15.80	15.85
Scot Newcastle	6.76	6.66	6.68	6.75
Scot Power	3.70	3.64	3.70	3.66
Securicor	2.86	2.83	2.83	2.86
Severn Trent	7.08	7	7.06	7.03
Shell Transp R	10.59	10.33	10.41	10.38
Siebe	9.98	9.76	9.82	9.98
Smith Nephew	1.75	1.72	1.74	1.74
SmithKline	9.01	8.87	8.92	8.93
Smiths Ind	7.56	7.52	7.53	7.52
Sthern Elec	4.07	4.02	4.05	4.02
Stagecoach	6.50	6.42	6.42	6.46
Stand Charter	8.49	8.38	8.40	8.40
Tate & Lyle	4.34	4.30	4.31	4.32
Tesco	3.66	3.50	3.63	3.53
Thames Water	6.68	6.62	6.65	6.65
3i Group	5.11	5.06	5.09	5.08
TI Group	5.69	5.53	5.55	5.55
Tomkins	2.79	2.72	2.73	2.75
Unilever	15.48	15.10	15.19	15.22
Utd Assurance	4.79	4.70	4.70	4.76
Utd News	7.37	7.15	7.16	7.35
Utd Utilities	6.40	6.35	6.37	6.36
Vendome Lx uts	5.25	5.13	5.15	5.25
Vodafone	2.85	2.78	2.85	2.78
Whitbread	7.75	7.67	7.73	7.73
Williams Hdgs	3.20	3.15	3.18	3.16
Wolseley	4.92	4.87	4.92	4.87
WPP Group	2.52	2.45	2.46	2.50
Zeneca	17.72	17.68	17.72	17.63

Madrid
Bolsa Index: 477.02 Previous: 474.35

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	20600	20310	20400	20540
ACESA	1670	1640	1655	1655
Aguas Barcelon	5440	5370	5410	5390
Argentaria	6160	6080	6120	6120
BBV	8670	8580	8620	8650
Banesto	1100	1085	1090	1090
Bankinter	19200	19000	19200	19000
Bco Centro Hisp	3840	3790	3840	3800
Bco Exterior	2750	2750	2750	2750
Bco Popular	26090	25790	25920	25880
Bco Santander	9800	9710	9790	9700
CEPSA	4230	4180	4230	4200
Continente	2535	2490	2510	2525
Corp Mapfre	7100	7040	7060	7100
Endesa	9330	9250	9290	9290
FECSA	1210	1180	1195	1190
Gas Natural	31730	31290	31630	31490
Iberdrola	1625	1586	1625	1595
Pryca	2640	2605	2625	2615
Repsol	6020	5970	6010	5960
Sevillana Elec	1310	1285	1300	1300
Tabacalera	7090	6910	7040	6970
Telefonica	3410	3385	3400	3390
Union Fenosa	1205	1175	1190	1200
Valenc Cement	1775	1725	1760	1765

Manila
PSE Index: 2909.30 Previous: 2990.96

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala B	26	24.75	24.75	25.50
Ayala Land	25.50	24.75	25.50	25
Bk Philip Isl	160	150	157	161
C&P Homes	11	9.70	10	10.50
Manila Elec A	121	116	117	119
Metro Bank	640	585	600	640
Petron	10.25	9.70	9.80	10.25
PCI Bank	390	345	350	350
Phil Long Dist	1550	1535	1535	1555
San Miguel B	80	75	75.50	80
SM Prime Hdg	7.20	6.70	6.80	7.20

Mexico
Bolsa Index: 3765.78 Previous: 3792.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	44.00	43.50	44.00	44.00
Banacci B	18.48	18.26	18.26	18.50
Cemex CPO	28.75	28.50	28.70	28.65
Cifra C	10.76	10.70	10.74	10.80
Emp Modema	39.50	39.20	39.30	39.50
Gpo Carso A1	46.30	45.90	45.90	46.20
Gpo F Bcomer	1.82	1.81	1.82	1.80
Gpo Fin Inbursa	28.90	28.70	28.90	28.70
Kimb Clark Mex	30.70	30.50	30.50	30.70
Televisa CPO	101.70	101.60	101.60	101.80
TelMex L	15.82	15.76	15.78	15.96

Milan
MIB Telematico: 11920.00 Previous: 11932.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	11750	11425	11495	11560
Bca Comm Ital	3425	3310	3385	3400
Bca Fideuram	4420	4270	4300	4330
Bca di Roma	1199	1166	1190	1200
Benetton	21500	20850	21500	21500
Credito Italiano	2415	2395	2410	2410
Edison	8700	8625	8685	8575
ENI	8230	8110	8155	8180
Fiat	5430	5315	5420	5365
Generali Assic	30350	29850	30000	30050
IMI	15070	14725	15070	14985
INA	2310	2275	2305	2290
Italgas	5710	5610	5645	5690
Mediaset	6950	6880	6950	6930
Mediobanca	10030	9820	9900	10000
Montedison	1110	1087	1099	1084
Olivetti	610	601	604	612
Parmalat	2520	2440	2480	2440
Pirelli	3695	3630	3695	3660
RAS	14935	14650	14935	14740
Rolo Banca	15100	14900	15090	15045
S Paolo Torino	11050	10750	11050	10940
Stet	7750	7640	7750	7780
Telecom Italia	4405	4325	4405	4400
TIM	4825	4765	4815	4830

Montreal
Industrials Index: 2770.70 Previous: 2824.06

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bce Mob Com	40¾	40¾	40¾	40.95
Cdn Tire A	24½	24¼	24¼	24.65
Cdn Util A	30.90	30.80	30.90	30¾
CT Finl Svc	33.45	33¼	33¼	33¾
Gaz Metro	17	16.95	17	17
Gt-West Lifeco	23	23	23	22.15
Imasco	33.90	33.70	33.70	33¾
Investors Grp	23.90	23.65	23.90	23¾
Loblaw Cos	17	17	17	17
Natl Bk Canada	14¼	14.10	14.15	14.15
Power Corp	27.85	27.55	27.85	27.85
Power Finl	26¼	26.20	26¼	26.05
Quebecor B	25	24.80	24.80	24.95
Rogers Comm B	8.10	8.10	8.10	7.60
Royal Bk Cda	54.45	53.80	54.15	54.40

Oslo
OBX Index: 589.76 Previous: 589.08

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	185	179	182.50	180
Bergesen Dy A	145.50	143	145	144
Christiania Bk	24.70	24.20	24.20	24.50
Den norske Bk	27.90	27.40	27.60	27.70
Elkem	127	123	126	125
Hafslund A	46.50	45	46.50	44.50
Kvaerner Asa	340	338	338	341
Norsk Hydro	331	325.50	329	328
Norske Skog A	223	218	221	220
Nycomed A	102	100.50	101	102.50
Orkla Asa A	543	538	541	538
Petm GeoSvc	280	278	279	282.50
Saga Petm A	112.50	110.50	111	112.50
Schibsted	129	128	128	129
Transocean Off	415	400	415	398
Storebrand Asa	46.70	46.20	46.20	46.70

Paris
CAC-40: 2579.00 Previous: 2572.31

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	820	813	815	816
AGF	201.90	197.90	200	202
Air Liquide	874	850	860	846
Alcatel Alsth	674	659	667	663
Axa-UAP	367.80	364.80	365.10	365.60
Bancaire	722	710	716	712
BIC	858	838	845	847
BNP	242.80	236.50	237.10	243.60
Canal Plus	1066	1032	1046	1035
Carrefour	3457	3426	3433	3422
Casino	248.90	244	247.80	246.50
CCF	255	252.10	253.70	250
Cetelem	660	652	652	647
Christian Dior	824	812	817	803
CLF-Dexia Fran	584	571	577	575
Credit Agricole	1255	1255	1255	1275
Danone	884	872	879	875
Elf-Aquitaine	554	536	539	543
Eridania BS	890	875	882	871
Eurodisney	10	9.90	10	9.90
Eurotunnel	6.65	6.55	6.65	6.65
Gen. Eaux	769	763	769	763
Havas	418	405	411.50	401
Imetal	838	821	828	825
Lafarge	379	374	376	376
Legrand	1034	993	1014	1029
L'Oreal	1925	1904	1914	1980
LVMH	1340	1321	1328	1321
Lyon. Eaux	550	538	540	542
Michelin B	342.40	331	341	330
Paribas A	371.10	366.80	367.20	366.70
Pernod Ricard	310.80	307.20	310.80	305.80
Peugeot Cit	624	612	621	612
Pinault-Print	2360	2330	2340	2340
Promodes	1928	1884	1924	1879
Renault	144.80	137.60	141.90	139
Rexel	1675	1561	1670	1639
Rh-Poulenc A	182.70	178.50	182.20	179.20
Sanofi	540	524	536	537
Schneider	317	311.70	314	313
SEB	1010	991	1004	1005
SGS Thomson	420	413	420	419.90
Ste Generale	648	639	646	645
Sodexho	2810	2792	2800	2799
St Gobain	805	788	788	802
Suez	286.50	282	282	283.30
Synthelabo	630	577	613	597
Thomson CSF	191.90	187.70	189.90	189.20
Total B	472	464.50	467	471.60
Usinor	90.90	89.40	90.80	90
Valeo	368.50	354.50	362	366

São Paulo
Bovespa Index: 9766.96 Previous: 9836.52

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bradesco Pfd	9.00	8.80	8.97	8.95
Brahma Pfd	705.00	700.00	701.00	707.00
Cemig Pfd	49.30	47.30	48.10	48.20
CESP Pfd	60.00	58.80	58.90	59.60
Copel	17.00	16.49	16.49	16.80
Eletrobras	490.00	475.00	478.00	473.00
Itaubanco Pfd	553.01	550.00	553.01	555.00
Light Servicos	445.00	442.00	442.00	450.00
Lightpar	369.00	360.00	361.00	375.00
Petrobras Pfd	212.00	208.00	211.50	209.50
Paulista Luz	164.50	162.50	162.50	164.51
Sid Nacional	38.70	38.00	38.00	38.70
Souza Cruz	8.80	8.72	8.80	8.90
Telebras Pfd	123.80	121.80	121.90	123.50
Telemig	168.00	163.00	164.50	168.50
Telerj	176.00	171.50	172.70	177.00
Telesp Pfd	315.00	303.01	305.00	310.00
Unibanco	39.00	38.50	38.80	39.49
Usiminas Pfd	1.19	1.16	1.17	1.19
CVRD Pfd	25.00	24.70	25.00	24.85

Seoul
Composite Index: 694.97 Previous: 694.90

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Dacom	107000	103000	104000	102500
Daewoo Heavy	4900	4660	4700	4880
Hyundai Eng.	19800	19000	19800	19500
Kia Motors	15500	15400	15500	15600
Korea El Pwr	26900	26600	26900	26700
Korea Exch Bk	6000	5800	5840	6000
Korea Mob Tel	470000	448000	457000	464000
LG Semicon	30600	28000	29700	29000
Pohang Iron St	54800	52300	54000	53800
Samsung Display	43300	42000	42400	43000
Samsung Elec	65000	63800	64200	63900
Shinhan Bank	11000	10600	10700	11000

Singapore
Straits Times: 2104.71 Previous: 2088.14

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Pac Brew	7.25	7.20	7.25	7.30
Cerebos Pac	9.50	9.45	9.45	9.48
City Devlts	14.20	13.60	14.10	13.70
Cycle Carriage	15.90	15.40	15.40	15.50
Dairy Farm Int *	0.73	0.71	0.71	0.73
DBS foreign	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	18.10
DBS Land	5.35	5.25	5.35	5.15
Fraser & Neave	11.90	11.80	11.80	11.90
HK Land *	2.33	2.28	2.29	2.31
Jard Matheson *	5.70	5.60	5.65	5.60
Jard Strategic *	3.70	3.60	3.66	3.58
Keppel	9.40	9.25	9.25	9.20
Keppel Bank	3.98	3.92	3.96	3.90
Keppel Fels	4.66	4.56	4.62	4.52
Keppel Land	4.56	4.50	4.54	4.48
OCBC foreign	18.60	18.10	18.60	18.20
OS Union Bk F	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	10.40
Parkway Hdgs	6.05	6	6.05	6
Sembawang	7.25	6.90	7.15	6.90
Sing Air foreign	12.00	11.53	11.80	11.50
Sing Land	7.35	7.20	7.30	7.25
Sing Press F	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	27
Sing Tech Ind	3.84	3.78	3.84	3.74
Sing Telecomm	3.02	2.91	2.99	2.92
Tai Lee Bank	3.46	3.42	3.44	3.42
Utd Industrial	1.16	1.14	1.15	1.14
Utd OSea Bk F	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.70
Wing Tai Hdgs	4.42	4.36	4.42	4.36

*: in U.S. dollars.

Stockholm
SX 16 Index: 2856.47 Previous: 2875.07

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA B	107	106	106	107
ABB A	861	855	855	853
AssiDoman	201	199	200	200.50
Astra A	358	350.50	350.50	358
Atlas Copco A	187.50	186	187	186.50
Autoliv	318	308	308.50	314
Electrolux B	480	466	469.50	469.50
Ericsson B	258	252	254.50	254
Hennes B	1015	1001	1003	995
Incentive A	506	498	502	505
Investor B	355	346.50	347	349
MoDo B	230.50	223.50	225	227
Nordbanken	253	244	245.50	251
Pharm/Upjohn	282	275	275	284
Sandvik B	199	195	195	199
Scania B	184.50	182	183	183.50
SCA B	165.50	163	164.50	165
S-E Banken A	81.50	80	80.50	81
Skandia Fors	221.50	218	221	219
Skanska B	333	327.50	329.50	328
SKF B	194.50	190.50	191	193.50
Sparbanken A	136	133	133.50	135
Stadshypotek A	190	190	190	190
Stora A	104	99.50	101.50	102.50
Sv Handles A	227	223	223.50	225
Volvo B	193	190.50	191.50	193

Sydney
All Ordinaries: 2368.90 Previous: 2366.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.14	8.10	8.10	8.15
ANZ Bking	8.11	8	8	8.07
BHP	16.89	16.75	16.75	16.88
Boral	3.62	3.59	3.61	3.59
Brambles Ind.	20.60	20.26	20.55	20.20
CBA	12.79	12.52	12.70	12.53
CC Amatil	14.08	13.90	14.05	14.13
Coles Myer	5.92	5.86	5.90	5.97
Comalco	6.38	6.30	6.30	6.38
CRA	18.95	18.80	18.85	18.95
CSR	4.68	4.56	4.67	4.65
Fosters Brew	2.59	2.55	2.57	2.57
Goodman Fld	1.66	1.64	1.65	1.66
ICI Australia	11.28	11.10	11.24	11.10
Lend Lease	21.82	21.50	21.76	21.63
MIM Hdgs	1.67	1.64	1.65	1.67
Nat Aust Bank	15.77	15.50	15.72	15.54
Nat Mutual Hdg	1.84	1.82	1.83	1.84
News Corp	5.86	5.81	5.84	5.80
Pacific Dunlop	3.18	3.10	3.18	3.19
Pioneer Intl	4.10	4.05	4.09	4.06
Pub Broadcast	6.53	6.50	6.51	6.52
St George Bank	7.80	7.61	7.80	7.65
WMC	7.68	7.58	7.61	7.70
Westpac Bking	6.88	6.82	6.87	6.82
Woodside Pet	9.21	9.16	9.19	9.18
Woolworths	3.58	3.48	3.57	3.48

Taipei
Stock Market Index: 8460.63 Previous: 8517.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cathay Life Ins	167	163	163	166
Chang Hwa Bk	175	173	174	173
Chiao Tung Bk	78.50	76	76	79
China Develpmt	126.50	120	122	124.50
China Steel	30.70	29	29.30	30.20
First Bank	176	173	174	175
Formosa Plastic	70	67.50	67.50	69
Hua Nan Bk	133.50	131.50	132	131.50
Intl Comm Bk	78.50	77	77.50	76.50
Nan Ya Plastics	64	62	62.50	63
Shin Kong Life	103	100	100.50	101
Taiwan Semi	81	76	79	78
Tatung	58	55.50	55.50	57.50
Utd Micro Elec	65.50	62.50	65.50	61.50
Utd World Chin	74.50	72.50	73	73

Tokyo
Nikkei 225: 18021.78 Previous: 17715.67

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	980	950	980	953
All Nippon Air	730	721	726	736
Amway	3430	3400	3410	3410
Asahi Bank	739	703	720	726
Asahi Chem	660	641	658	649
Asahi Glass	1090	1070	1080	1070
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	1910	1810	1900	1890
Bk Yokohama	531	525	530	534
Bridgestone	2580	2520	2580	2490
Canon	2940	2830	2930	2820
Chubu Elec	2040	2020	2040	2040
Chugoku Elec	2020	2000	2010	2020
Dai Nipp Print	2160	2120	2150	2130
Daiei	562	535	562	554
Dai-Ichi Kang	1280	1210	1260	1260
Daiwa Bank	358	343	356	369
Daiwa House	1430	1390	1430	1390
Daiwa Sec	774	730	745	780
DDI	8310a	8230a	8280a	8210a
Denso	2600	2480	2590	2380
East Japan Ry	5410a	5360a	5360a	5400a
Eisai	2250	2140	2240	2070
Fanuc	4150	4010	4100	3990
Fuji Bank	1350	1290	1330	1360
Fuji Photo	4330	4250	4310	4280
Fujitsu	1300	1280	1290	1270
Hachijuni Bk	1120	1110	1110	1100
Hitachi	1140	1110	1140	1110
Honda Motor	3920	3870	3880	3850
IBJ	1200	1130	1170	1200
IHI	444	417	444	416
Ito-chu	561	555	558	557
Ito-Yokado	5800	5670	5780	5600
JAL	460	451	451	462
Japan Tobacco	8080a	7820a	8040a	8210a
Jusco	3690	3600	3680	3590
Kajima	515	479	495	529
Kansai Elec	2130	2100	2110	2110
Kao	1330	1300	1330	1310
Kawasaki Hvy	497	489	495	489
Kawa Steel	364	357	363	360
Kinki Nipp Ry	735	725	729	737
Kirin Brewery	1000	957	985	973
Kobe Steel	221	217	220	221
Komatsu	884	852	884	855
Kubota	530	504	522	506
Kyocera	7500	7420	7470	7360
Kyushu Elec	2060	2030	2050	2090
LTCB	341	315	333	352
Marubeni	471	461	466	461
Marui	1780	1740	1770	1750
Matsu Comm	3200	3110	3190	3140
Matsu Elec Ind	1990	1950	1980	1940
Matsu Elec Wk	1200	1160	1190	1180
Mitsubishi	1090	1070	1080	1090
Mitsubishi Ch	375	364	368	366
Mitsubishi El	701	689	693	685
Mitsubishi Est	1410	1350	1400	1370
Mitsubishi Hvy	817	801	812	812
Mitsubishi Mat	914	906	910	912
Mitsubishi Tr	1140	1090	1120	1150
Mitsui	927	914	917	925
Mitsui Fudosn	1320	1290	1310	1310
Mitsui Trust	618	585	613	598
Murata Mfg	4730	4660	4730	4720
NEC	1520	1480	1520	1480
Nikon	1880	1750	1860	1730
Nikko Sec	620	566	601	616
Nintendo	9150	9000	9150	8900
Nipp Express	861	840	855	850
Nippon Oil	499	490	497	492
Nippon Steel	366	361	363	359
Nissan Motor	795	770	786	767
NKK	268	260	265	262
Nomura Sec	1250	1190	1240	1260
NTT	8720a	8450a	8710a	8450a
NTT Data	3510b	3370b	3510b	3390b
Oji Paper	588	580	587	610
Osaka Gas	289	282	289	283
Ricoh	1510	1490	1510	1480
Rohm	9840	9720	9840	9550
Sakura Bk	656	603	648	650
Sankyo	3550	3400	3530	3430
Sanwa Bank	1310	1230	1290	1310
Sanyo Elec	453	443	452	455
Secom	7160	7060	7140	7040
Seibu Rwy	5710	5600	5680	5710
Sekisui Chem	1150	1130	1140	1140
Sekisui House	1170	1130	1150	1170
Seven-Eleven	7750	7610	7750	7650
Sharp	1500	1470	1500	1470
Shikoku El Pwr	1960	1930	1950	1960
Shimizu	579	543	562	588
Shin-etsu Ch	2550	2470	2550	2460
Shiseido	1610	1590	1590	1600
Shizuoka Bk	1080	1040	1070	1060
Softbank	7740	7630	7630	7700
Sony	9120	8990	9120	8980
Sumitomo	868	855	868	868
Sumitomo Bk	1350	1280	1320	1360
Sumit Chem	500	476	499	479
Sumitomo Elec	1730	1690	1730	1690
Sumit Metal	298	290	295	299
Sumit Trust	926	910	913	966
Taisho Pharm	3170	3110	3170	3130
Takeda Chem	2790	2750	2790	2740
TDK	9230	9080	9180	9000
Tohoku El Pwr	2000	1950	1970	1970
Tokai Bank	930	891	926	935
Tokio Marine	1230	1190	1220	1220
Tokyo El Pwr	2230	2170	2170	2230
Tokyo Electron	4770	4590	4770	4600
Tokyo Gas	298	288	298	288
Tokyu Corp.	609	579	604	585
Tonen	1160	1120	1160	1140
Toppan Print	1550	1530	1540	1530
Toray Ind	726	706	724	704
Toshiba	710	695	707	695
Tostem	2660	2600	2600	2660
Toyo Trust	750	729	735	780
Toyota Motor	3470	3380	3460	3280
Yamanouchi	2560	2520	2560	2540

a: x 100; b: x 1,000

Toronto
TSE Industrials: 5815.61 Previous: 5840.78

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	19.95	19¾	19.80	19.95
Alberta Energy	28.30	28.10	28.10	28.30
Alcan Alum	45.10	43¾	44.40	44.90
Anderson Expl	15.90	15.70	15.80	15.90
Bk Montreal	49.65	49.10	49.35	49.40
Bk Nova Scotia	52.20	51.05	52.10	51¾
Barrick Gold	32.60	32.20	32½	32.35
BCE	63½	63	63¼	63.45
BC Telecomm	29½	28.90	28.90	29.55
Biochem Pharma	34½	34½	34½	34.30
Bombardier B	26.05	25.85	25.95	26
Brascan A	31.20	30.85	30.90	31.20
Bre-x Minerals	2.85	2.45	2.53	2.52
Cameco	51.35	50.90	51	51.25
CIBC	32	31¼	31.60	31¼
Cdn Natl Rail	49.40	49.15	49.20	49.20
Cdn Nat Res	32½	31¼	31.90	32¼
Cdn Occid Pet	25.15	25	25.05	25.05
Cdn Pacific	33	32.65	32.90	32.90
Cominco	35	34¾	34.90	35
Dofasco	24.60	23.80	23.85	24.60
Domtar	10.15	10	10.05	10.05
Donohue A	24.85	24½	24½	24.70
Du Pont Cda A	31½	31	31	31¼
Edper Group	22.35	22½	22¼	22.35
Euro-Nev Mng	41	40½	40.95	40.45
Fairfax Finl	299½	298	299	299.05
Falconbridge	27.95	27.30	27.65	27¾
Fletcher Chall A	21.90	21½	21¾	21.90
Franco Nevada	67¾	67.05	67½	67.45
Gulf Cda Res	10	9.85	9.90	10
Imperial Oil	62.70	61.70	62	62.70
Inco	43.65	42.85	43.20	43.20
IPL Energy	39.95	39.70	39.90	40
Laidlaw B	18½	18.15	18¼	18¼
Loewen Group	41	39½	39¾	41
Macmill Bld	19	18¾	18½	18.95
Magna Intl A	70.20	69½	69.60	69¾
Methanex	11¾	11.45	11.60	11¾
Moore	27½	26.95	27¼	27.40
Newbridge Net	41.40	40.30	41.20	41.15
Noranda Inc	28.65	28	28	28¾
Norcen Energy	30¼	29¼	29½	29.60
Nthern Telecom	92.70	90¾	91.45	92.80
Nova	11.20	11.05	11.10	11.20
Onex	23.35	22.95	22.95	23½
Pancdn Petlm	56	56	56	55.70
Petro Cda	19¾	19.45	19½	19.45
Placer Dome	25.05	24.80	24.90	24.90
Poco Petlm	13.45	13¼	13.30	13.35
Potash Sask	104½	103	104	103.90
Renaissance	40¾	39.65	39.90	40.45
Rio Algom	33.05	32½	32.55	33
Rogers Cantel B	24.05	24	24	24.05
Seagram Co	52.40	51.60	51.85	52.45
Shell Cda A	52.85	52.60	52¾	52.95
Stone Consold	20	19¾	19.80	19.90
Suncor	59.80	59.15	59.40	59.80
Talisman Eny	40.15	39.05	39.15	40.15
Teck B	29	28.40	28.65	28.80
Teleglobe	39.70	39.20	39.20	39¾
Telus	20.80	20½	20¾	20.80
Thomson	27½	26.95	27.10	27.45
TorDom Bank	36½	36.05	36.30	36.30
Transalta	16.10	15.80	15.90	16.10
TransCda Pipe	24.90	24.40	24.85	24.45
Trimark Finl	41.90	41.40	41.60	41.40
Trizec Hahn	31.60	31.30	31.45	31.20
TVX Gold	9.85	9.55	9¾	9.85
Westcoast Eny	24.15	23.80	24.10	23.95
Weston	68.45	67¾	67¾	68¼

Vienna
ATX Index: 1186.13 Previous: 1178.29

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Boehler-Uddeh	830	815.20	815.30	813
Creditanst Pfd	457.20	451	457	454.80
EA-Generali	3209	3160	3190	3170
EVN	1670	1659	1668	1667.50
Flughafen Wien	533	522	523	520
OMV	1341	1309	1320	1338
Oest Elektriz	846	836.50	842.50	839.20
VA Stahl	469.90	465	467.50	461
VA Tech	1706.50	1654	1701.10	1651
Wienerberg Bau	2190	2131	2174	2139

Wellington
NZSE-40 Index: 2224.62 Previous: 2221.01

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air NZ Zeald B	3.97	3.95	3.96	3.95
Brierly Invt	1.29	1.28	1.28	1.28
Carter Holt ord	3.09	3.06	3.09	3.07
Fletch Ch Bldg	4.22	4.19	4.22	4.24
Fletch Ch Eny	3.95	3.92	3.93	3.96
Fletch Ch Forst	1.86	1.83	1.86	1.82
Fletch Ch Paper	2.86	2.83	2.84	2.83
Lion Nathan	3.40	3.38	3.40	3.38
Telecom NZ	6.60	6.55	6.55	6.56
Wilson Horton	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	11.60

Zurich
SPI Index: 2898.96 Previous: 2903.15

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABB B	1709	1692	1701	1702
Adecco B	459	451.50	456	458
Alusuisse R	1176	1155	1160	1189
Ares-Serono B	1860	1770	1840	1759
Atel R	920	910	910	900
Baer Hdg B	1700	1690	1693	1695
Baloise Hdg R	2880	2860	2860	2865
BK Vision	845	837	840	842
Clariant R	767	743	752	742
Crd Suisse Gp R	167	163	165	164
Elektrowatt B	536	532	536	535
Ems-Chemie	5920	5845	5845	5915
ESEC Hdg	3920	3850	3900	3950
Holderbank B	1103	1081	1097	1086
Liechtenst LB B	474	471	471	470.50
Nestle R	1702	1675	1696	1688
Novartis R	1773	1753	1755	1758
Oerlikon Bueh R	142.50	139	140.50	138.75
Pargesa Hld B	1678	1650	1650	1660
PharmVisn B	725	712	712	725
Richemont A	1895	1885	1895	1900
Pirelli PC	221	217	220	221
Roche Hdg PC	12230	12095	12150	12200
SBC R	299.50	295.50	298	298
Schindler PC	1724	1700	1717	1705
SGS B	3045	2980	3000	2965
SMH B	817	804	807	815
Sulzer R	944	924	940	927
Swiss Reins R	1509	1501	1505	1506
Swissair R	1338	1295	1330	1285
UBS B	1276	1255	1258	1278
Winterthur R	1007	982	1001	1010
Zurich Assur R	445	440.50	444	443

The Trib Index

Prices as of 3:00 P.M. New York time.

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	151.70	+1.15	+0.76	+15.04
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	110.77	-0.19	-0.17	-17.50
Europe	160.79	+2.28	+1.43	+15.53
N. America	175.96	+1.42	+0.81	+37.17
S. America	138.61	-0.90	-0.65	+55.67
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	175.76	+2.94	+1.70	+32.27
Consumer goods	170.28	+1.06	+0.63	+23.33
Energy	183.06	+2.94	+1.63	+34.98
Finance	112.93	+0.31	+0.28	-11.24
Miscellaneous	156.63	+1.06	+0.68	+15.33
Raw Materials	182.19	+1.28	+0.71	+28.48
Service	142.74	+0.81	+0.57	+18.95
Utilities	132.97	-0.42	-0.31	+4.59

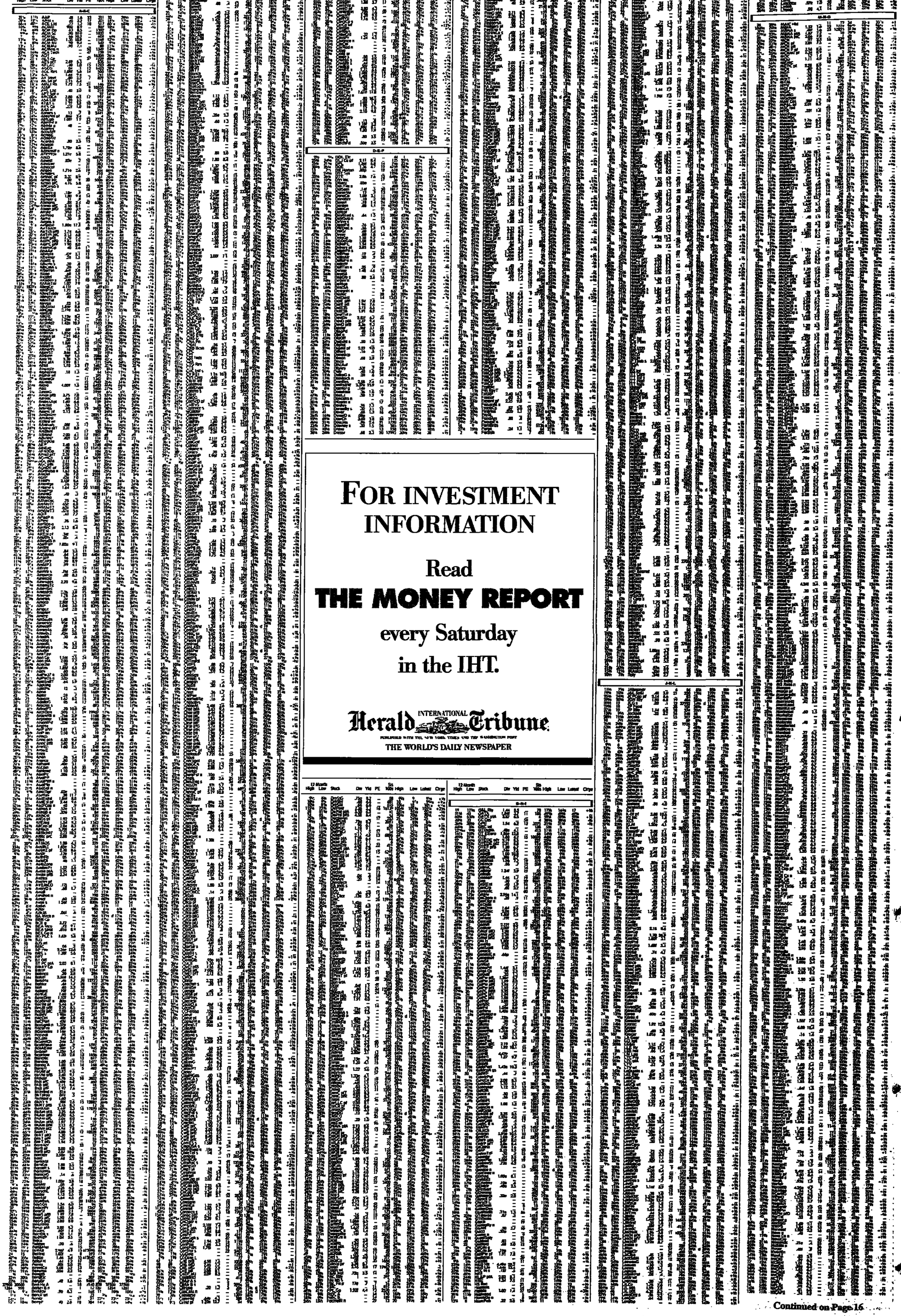
The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar values of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free booklet is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. *Compiled by Bloomberg News.*

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.

The Associated Press.



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every Saturday

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Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Continued on Page 16

ASIA/PACIFIC

Fear of Loan Defaults Mauls Manila Stocks

Bloomberg News

MANILA — The stock exchange's main index tumbled 2.7 percent Tuesday, its biggest one-day decline in more than five months, amid concern that growing loan defaults could hurt banks.

"The concerns about the banks have to do with their exposure to the property sector and consumer financing," Rolando Valenzuela, senior vice president at Philippine TA Securities Inc., said.

The Philippine Stock Exchange's composite index, a basket of 30 companies, dropped 81.66 points to close at 2,909.30, a 23-week low. The index fell 2.3 percent Monday.

"Basically, we've got a market of gunslingers who have run out of bullets," Miguel Ongpin, an analyst at SJ Roxas & Co., said.

"It is my own frank opinion this is no time to be a contrarian. We haven't seen the bottom of the market yet."

Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co., the country's largest bank in terms of assets, paced the decline. The stock, which accounts for 8.5 percent of the benchmark index, dropped 40 pesos to a 16-week low of 600 ($22.76).

Last week, the Philippine central bank issued a report saying that defaults on car loans and overdue credit-card accounts had ballooned, fueling concern about the financial health of banks.

"The recent meltdown with the banks has to do with the higher-risk consumer-loans sector," Mr. Valenzuela said. "Metrobank is really more exposed to the retail sector."

Other banks followed Metrobank down. Philippine National Bank lost 15 to 275, its lowest since Dec. 20, 1995. Far East Bank & Trust Co. fell 2.83 to 93 after paying a 20 percent stock dividend.

Bank of the Philippine Islands slid 4 to 157. Bankard Inc., the only credit-card company listed on the exchange, fell 0.90 to 6.20.

Property developers also fell amid concern the industry could face financial problems similar to those in Thailand, where overbuilding, high interest rates and the slowest economic growth in a decade have triggered loan defaults.

Megaworld Properties & Holdings Inc., an upper-income condominium developer, declined 1 to 6.30, its lowest level since Dec. 19, 1995. Its housing unit, Empire East Land Holdings Inc., fell 0.90 to a record low of 5.80.

Other large-capitalization stocks also fell as foreign investors trimmed their holdings of Philippine stocks, traders said.

Last week, Andrew Tan, chairman of Megaworld, attempted to quell speculation that his companies were in financial trouble because of mounting debt.

"The comments by Andrew Tan were not sufficient," John Mangun, director of portfolio strategy at Connell Securities Inc., said. Megaworld "is going to run into a cash-flow problem in the future," he said.

Wilson Sy, chairman of the stock exchange, criticized "rumors and innuendoes" surrounding Megaworld. He said a "wave of malicious rumors" could damage the property industry and the "positive gains the country has achieved in creating a favorable business climate for sustained investment."

Bond Issue: Thailand's Test

Bloomberg News

HONG KONG — Thailand's sale of government bonds this week will serve as a referendum on how the country is weathering a financial crisis that sent stocks there into a tailspin and produced the slowest Thai economic growth in a decade.

The government is marketing $500 million in 10-year and 30-year bonds to U.S. investors, but for Thailand, "the timing couldn't be worse," Kevin Daly, an analyst at MMS International in Singapore, said.

Still, the fact that Thailand can sell debt at all is a testament to bond investors' search for higher yields.

Two months ago, the Ministry of Finance expected to pay 60 basis points, or six-tenths of a percentage point, more than the yield on U.S. Treasury issues for its "Yankee" bonds, which are sold to U.S. investors. Now, that spread may be as much as 85 basis points, analysts and investors said.

In February, Thailand's biggest investment bank, Finance One PLC, was forced into a merger to shore up its finances. At about the same time, Standard & Poor's Corp. and Moody's Investors Service Inc. lowered their credit ratings on Thai banks, and Moody's said it might downgrade the government's debt as well. Then last week, the Federal Reserve Board nudged U.S. interest rates a quarter-point higher and set off concern that rates in many other countries would rise, which depressed bond prices.

Optimists point to steps that the Thai government has taken — such as forcing troubled financial companies to merge and establishing a fund to bail out property companies — as signs that Bangkok will be able to limit the damage to the economy.

Standard & Poor's said Tuesday that its rating on Thailand's sovereign debt would be "unscathed" by a meltdown of Thai finance companies. It cited the government's ample supply of resources to offset potential losses.

"The fundamental credit strengths and weaknesses of Thailand haven't changed," Cem Karacadag, S&P's director in New York, said.

Still, some investors say they expect Thailand's economic situation to deteriorate for about six more months. That could push Thai bond yields — and borrowing costs — still higher.

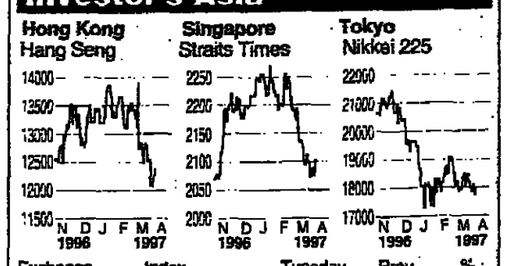
"The bad news is not fully absorbed yet," said Edmund Yuen, a Hong Kong-based investment adviser at Republic National Bank, which manages more than $300 million of Asian bonds.

This week's Yankee bond sale is not being watched only by bond investors, however. In the past few weeks, other lenders have decided to delay new loans to Thai companies pending the outcome of the sale.

"The real concern for me is that many companies will not be able to access the capital markets," Denis Girault, director at BZW Asia Ltd., said.

Although Thailand's best credit risks should still be able to raise funds, albeit at a higher cost, some bankers say many Thai companies could have difficulties borrowing internationally.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	12,398.57	12,287.84	+0.90
Singapore	Straits Times	2,104.71	2,088.14	+0.79
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,368.90	2,366.00	+0.12
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	18,021.70	17,715.67	+1.73
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,162.25	1,134.23	+2.47
Bangkok	SET	715.36	714.09	+0.18
Seoul	Composite Index	694.97	694.90	+0.01
Taipei	Stock Market Index	8,480.63	8,517.70	-0.67
Manila	PSE	2,909.30	2,990.96	-2.73
Jakarta	Composite Index	638.22	636.64	+0.25
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,224.82	2,221.01	+0.16
Bombay	Sensitive Index	Closed	3,520.49	-

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

World Bank to Sell Its First Won Bonds

Bloomberg News

HONG KONG — The World Bank will sell its first bonds denominated in South Korean won this month to help the country build a Western-style debt market, officials say.

Along with a similar sale planned by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the five-year bonds will give South Korean corporate borrowers a model for pricing and marketing their own debt. At present, many borrow for no more than three years.

"It's to develop the Korean long-term bond market," Woo Jin Kim, head of the market-opening desk at Daewoo Securities, said. Daewoo is helping to arrange the sale with KDB Securities of Korea. The sales will offer South Koreans a rare chance to buy international bonds denominated in their own currency. Overseas buyers currently demand yields of about 9 percent for investing in won, because the investment implies a bet that the currency's yearlong slide against the dollar will soon end.

Both sales will help expand South Korea's bond market. By using the World Bank and the European development bank as benchmarks, companies may be able to price their own bonds more easily and lock in money for longer periods.

Very briefly:

- **Malaysia**'s central bank unveiled a series of exemptions from its new lending curbs, helping to quell investor concern that the restrictions will squeeze bank earnings.
- **Taiwan**'s trade surged in March, suggesting the economy might weather an outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease that crippled its pork industry; imports rose 25 percent from a year earlier, to a record $10.11 billion, and exports rose 18 percent, to $10.67 billion.
- **LG Semicon Co.** and **Hyundai Electronics Co.**, two of South Korea's major chip producers, said they would increase production of high-powered 64-megabit dynamic random access memory chips to try to lift their flagging profits.
- **South Korean** prosecutors will question Lee Suk Chae, a former adviser to the president, in a loans-for-kickbacks scandal involving the failed **Hanbo Group**, state radio said.
- **Japan**'s gross national product got a boost of 7.28 trillion yen ($58.36 billion), or 1.55 percent, from deregulation of telecommunications, oil, electricity and other industries in the early 1990s, the Economic Planning Agency estimated.
- **South Korea**'s leading carmakers announced record production of 271,801 vehicles in March, up 8.6 percent from a year ago, in spite of a sluggish home market and high stockpiles.

Bloomberg, AFP, Bridge News

HUSTLER: *New Media Are Hurting Traditional 'Skin' Magazines*

Continued from Page 11

profit for the financial year that will end in June, for example, will come from its cable and video businesses and just 18 percent from Playboy magazine.

Mr. Flynt has chosen to stay focused on print and on making Hustler "the most outrageous magazine out there," in the words of Hustler's executive editor, Allan MacDonell, to whom Mr. Flynt referred all questions.

Nor is there a clear explanation for the sale late last year of one of Mr. Flynt's chief assets, Flynt Distribution Co., which handled newsstand placement not only for Flynt publications but also for others, including newsstand copies of The New York Review of Books.

Anthony DiBisceglie, director of client services for Curtis Circulation, which bought Flynt Distribution, said interest stemming from the current movie, which chronicles Mr. Flynt's legal battles in setting up his magazine, had lifted sales of Hustler, but he would not provide specific numbers.

But Mr. Phillips said that increase might prove to be only a temporary publicity-related surge.

Mass approbation has never been a priority, however, for Mr. Flynt, who owned a chain of strip bars before starting Hustler in 1974. Circulation quickly soared, but so did public hostility. While he was on trial on obscenity charges in Lawrenceville, Georgia, in 1978, a sniper shot him in the back outside the courthouse. But despite — or perhaps because of — the notoriety, Flynt Publishing has performed well enough over the years to gain respect from some quarters.

Mr. MacDonell would not comment on what the earnings are on Flynt Publishing's $100 million in revenue, other than to say "we've got a pretty good ratio there."

But John Harrington, who publishes a newsletter that tracks newsstand sales, said profits were probably very good. "They're not paying a great deal in editorial or other marketing costs," he said. "There are a bunch of specials that they sell, recycling that same editorial material."

There are no outside estimates of Hustler's circulation or advertising pages. But "we do pretty well with ads," Mr. MacDonell said.

The ads Hustler does sell are cheap, comparatively speaking. The prices peak at $25,000 for a four-color, full-page ad, while magazines with circulation comparable to Hustler's average 543,805, according to the Publishers Information Bureau.

Although still not involved in video and cable television, Mr. Flynt's company is becoming active on the World Wide Web, Mr. MacDonell said, where it already has on-line versions of Hustler and three of its other magazines.

The on-line Hustler (www.hustler.com) closely resembles the magazine in terms of tone and content, namely the editorial preoccupation with female anatomy.

New technology notwithstanding, it is not easy to gauge the future of Larry Flynt Publishing. Unlike Hugh Hefner, for example, who propelled his daughter, Christie, through the ranks to chairman and chief executive at Playboy, Mr. Flynt, who is 54 and uses a wheelchair as a result of the 1978 shooting, does not appear to have cultivated a publishing heir among his five children from three marriages, although two, Larry Jr. and Theresa, are currently working there, nor has he designated a successor outside the family.

Insider Suspected at Suzutan

Bloomberg News

TOKYO — Financial regulators asked prosecutors to charge Katsura Suzui, the former chairman of Suzutan Co., Japan's largest maker of women's clothes, with insider trading, a government spokesman said Tuesday.

The Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission filed a complaint with the Nagoya prosecutor's office charging that Mr. Suzui and two others had sold Suzutan shares before the company disclosed a subsidiary's losses.

A spokesman for the commission said Mr. Suzui sold 1 million Suzutan shares a few months before the company announced the unit's loss.

The company's announcement of the loss, in October 1994, sent Suzutan shares tumbling to about 600 yen ($4.81). By selling before the announcement, Mr. Suzui got about 1,200 yen each for his shares, the spokesman said. Suzutan closed Tuesday at 192 yen, unchanged.

Australia Sees Bank-Merger Easing

Bloomberg News

CANBERRA — A review of Australia's financial system to be made public Wednesday probably will ease restrictions on bank mergers, although it is not expected to lead to a large number of takeovers among major banks, analysts and investors said Tuesday.

The so-called Wallis report, the first major review of the financial system in 18 years, was commissioned by the government. It is expected to recommend dropping what is known as the "six pillars" policy, which bans mergers among the country's four major banks and with its two biggest life insurers, AMP Society and National Mutual Holdings Ltd.

ASIAN CAPITAL HOLDINGS FUND
20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais, L-2535 Luxembourg
R.C. Luxembourg B 43 100

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of ASIAN CAPITAL HOLDINGS FUND will be held at the registered office of the Company on 28 April 1997 at 3.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Approval of the report of the Board of Directors and the report of the Auditor;
2. Approval of the financial statements for the year ending on 31 December 1996;
3. Retirement of the outgoing Directors and the Auditor from their duties for the year ending on 31 December 1996;
4. Appointment of the Directors and the Auditor of the Fund:
   - Re-election of the Directors;
   - Re-election of the Auditor;
5. Any other business.

Resolutions of the shareholders will be passed by a simple majority of those present and voting and each share is entitled to one vote.

A shareholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

On behalf of the Company,
BANQUE DE GESTION EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LUXEMBOURG
- Société Anonyme -
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DIVIDEND NOTICE

At the Annual General Meeting held on March 25, 1997, it was decided to pay a dividend of USD 0,66 (sixty six cents) per share on/or after April 11, 1997 to shareholders of record on March 25, 1997 and to holders of bearer shares upon presentation of coupon nr 28. The ex-dividend date is March 27, 1997.

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5, rue Plaetis
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Furthermore, at a Meeting of the Board of Directors held on December 9, 1996, it was decided that all dividends cheques of previous years not cashed-in have been cancelled and the amount will be reinvested in additional shares on behalf of the shareholder concerned.

NAMPOWER
400kV Interconnection between Namibia and South Africa
Pre-qualification of Tenderers
for 400kV Transmission Lines

NamPower wish to invite interested parties to pre-qualify as turnkey contractors for the above project involving 720km of single circuit 400kV transmission line using guyed chainette type towers and incorporating 24 fibre OPGW.

In order to pre-qualify tenderers will have to demonstrate:

i) Their experience of similar projects
ii) Their capability of personnel and equipment to undertake the work
iii) Their sound financial status

Pre-qualification documents can be obtained from 1 May 1997 by fax request to NamPower ++264 61 2052354 for attention of Mr KM Nair Project Manager and must be returned by 12 noon on 30 May 1997.

NamPower

LEICOM FUND
20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais, L-2535 Luxembourg
R.C. Luxembourg B.21 454

AVIS AUX ACTIONNAIRES

Messieurs les actionnaires sont convoqués par le présent avis à L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ORDINAIRE DES ACTIONNAIRES qui se tiendra au siège social à Luxembourg le 28 avril 1997 à 15h30, avec l'ordre du jour suivant :

ORDRE DU JOUR

1. Compte Rendu d'activité du Conseil d'Administration pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 décembre 1996 ;
2. Rapport du Réviseur d'Entreprises pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 décembre1996 ;
3. Adoption des comptes de l'exercice se terminant le 31 décembre 1996 ;
4. Affectation du résultat de l'exercice se terminant le 31 décembre 1996 ;
5. Ratification de la cooptation de LA COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD BANQUE, représentée par Monsieur Roger CUKIERMAN, en remplacement de Monsieur Donat BRANGER et de Monsieur Samuel PINTO en remplacement de Monsieur Olivier MAUMUS ;
6. Décharge aux Administrateurs et au Réviseur d'Entreprises pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 décembre 1996 ;
7. Nomination des organes sociaux :
   - Nomination des Administrateurs ;
   - Nomination du Réviseur d'Entreprises ;
8. Divers.

Les actionnaires sont informés qu'aucun quorum n'est requis pour cette assemblée et que les décisions sont prises à la majorité simple des actions présentes ou représentées.

Chaque action a un droit de vote.

Tout actionnaire peut voter par mandataire. A cette fin, des procurations sont disponibles au siège social et seront envoyées aux actionnaires sur demande.

Afin d'être valable, les procurations dûment signées par les actionnaires devront être envoyées au siège social afin d'être reçues le jour précédant l'assemblée à 17 heures au plus tard.

Les propriétaires d'actions au porteur, désirant participer à cette assemblée, devront déposer leurs actions cinq jours ouvrables avant l'assemblée au siège social de la société.

Les actionnaires désireux d'obtenir le Rapport Annuel Audité peuvent s'adresser au siège social de la société.

Pour la société,
BANQUE DE GESTION EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LUXEMBOURG
- Société Anonyme -
20, boulevard Emmanuel Servais
L-2535 LUXEMBOURG

MINISTERIO DE ENERGIA Y MINAS

REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES
EMPRESA ESTATAL PETROLEOS DEL ECUADOR
PETROECUADOR

PETROECUADOR EMPRESA ESTATAL PETROLEOS DEL ECUADOR

SUSPENSION OF INTERNATIONAL TENDER

Within the process of the " Special Tender 01-SOCO-CEL-97 for the Contracting of Transportation Service for Crude Oil, using the Privately Owned Centro - Oriente Pipeline System, (SOCO)", the Special Bidding Committee, CEL, in application of its authority, stipulated in Art. 11, numeral 10, of its bylaws for the Contracting of Transportation Service for Crude Oil through Privately Owned Pipelines, with Resolution Nbr. 497 - CEL - 97 of March 20, 1997, decided to suspend the above mentioned bidding process, on the grounds of its inconvenience to the national interest .

Quito, March 24, 1997

Eng. Raúl Baca C.
Minister of Energy and Mines
Chairman of the Special Bidding Committee

Dr. Rafael Almeida M.
Executive President of Petroecuador
Secretary of the CEL

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Japan 0031126609 Korea 0038110243 Luxembourg 08004552 Mexico 958008784178 Netherlands 0602206657
N.Antilles 18009945757 N. Zealand 0800441880 Portugal 050112632 Singapore 8001202501 S.Africa 0800996337
Spain 900931007 Sweden 020793158 Switzerland 0800897233 Thailand 001800119230686 Turkey 00800138219013
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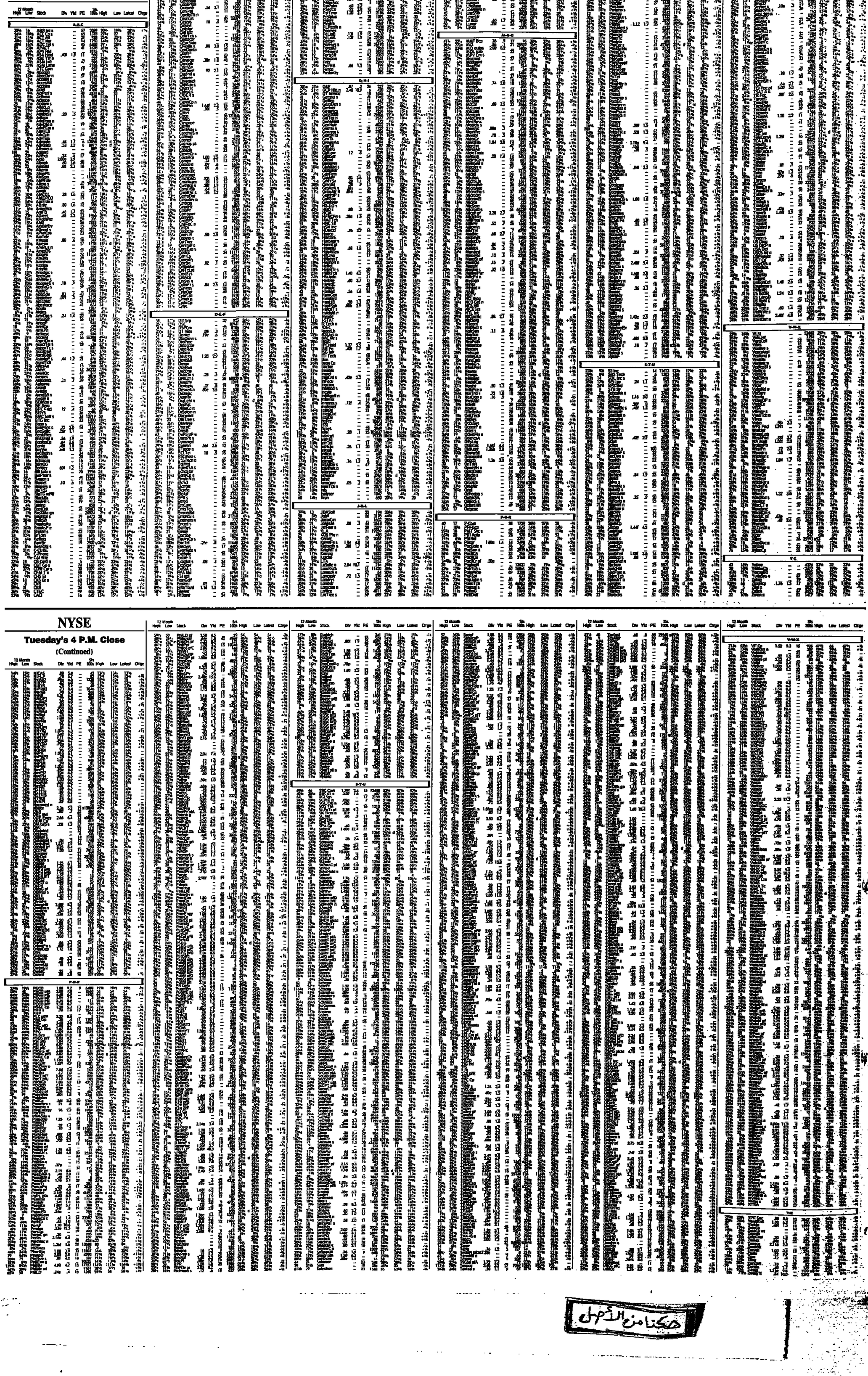
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

NASDAQ

Tuesday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities
In terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.



NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

(Continued)

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April 8, 1997

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Adelaide 1127.79
Adelaide 1127.79
Alexander Gibb Invest Fd I 17.23
Alfa Futures Fd Ltd 998.83
Anna Investment 1074.74
Argus Fd Bonds 1387.30
Argus Fund Equity 1602.87
Ariane Fd Ltd 4.63
Asia Dynamic Func 14.62
Asia Vision 11.15
Asian Selection Hdgs 284.36
Associated Investors Inc. 1062.61
Athena Fund Ltd 92.93
Austin Intl Ltd 99.17
BAS-EX Currency Fund Plc 105975
Bay Harbour 1360.975
BEM International Ltd 114.57
Black Diamond Ltd 112.93
Bremen Global Fund A 1493.93
Brookscastle Invt Ltd (BVI) 12.864
C.C.I.L. 14.04
Canterbury Growth Fund Ltd 10.035
Cat Umbrella Sic Asia Hi Y 754.46
Cat Umbrella Sic Asia Hi Y 999.92
Cat Umbrella Sic Asia Hi Y 764.44
Cedar Global Investments 1000.00
Central & Eastern Euro 1000.00
Century Futures 1070.71
Cervell Growth Fund 100.84
Chilton Intl (BVI) Ltd 1493.58
Chisholm Select 220.40
Chosen Strategic Fund 169.75
Chosen Limited 1164.53
Colossus Holdings 317.802
Colt Cor Intl NV 116.23
Concord Cap Growth Corp 1.40
Concorde Inv Fund 1140.17
Conforex Actions Ltd 9362.00
Conforex Opal Bahar C1 1710.63
Conforex Opal Bahar C2 1207.08
Conforex Opal World 343.27
Craig Bril Cap 29.760
Cumber Intl S.A. 715.91
D Winter Wild Wide Int Tst 99.40
DB Argentina Bd Fd 10.11
DB Brazil Fund Shares 124.43
Delphi Global Opportunities 1.00
DG Fd - Yuchi Bond Fund 1000.00
Dragons America Fund 13.27
DVT Performance Fd 120.17
Epic Overseas Fund Ltd 1700.59
Ewarps Capital 1000.73
Ewel Selg Ind. Plus A 1538.60
Ewel Selg Ind. Plus B 1538.60
Ewel Finance Ind. Plus A 1135.76
Ewel Finance Ind. Plus B 1199.80
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Bobby Yip/Reuters

Todd Woodbridge pausing while playing Shuzo Matsuoka.

Rain Halts Chang

TENNIS Rain midway through the first set Tuesday halted Michael Chang's first round match in the Salem Open in Hong Kong. The top seed was leading a Hong Kong wild card, Melvin Tong, 3-0 when the match was stopped. Chang's brother, Carl Chang, finished his match, losing 6-0, 6-4 Brian MacPhie.

No. 3 seed Todd Woodbridge, a doubles specialist, beat Shuzo Matsuoka of Japan 6-1, 6-4. Woodbridge had been playing doubles for more than two weeks. He and his partner Mark Woodforde helped Australia beat the Czech Republic in the Davis Cup last week, and the week before they won the Lipton doubles title in Florida.

"The hardest thing for me was to adjust to singles after two and a half weeks of doubles," Woodbridge said. "It's not often that I go through such a long period without playing singles." *(AP)*

Attendance Rises

BASEBALL Attendance was up 10.1 percent for the first week of the Major League season. The 76 games during the first week of the season drew 2,258,009, an average of 29,711. Through 76 games last year, baseball drew an average of 26,981. The average fell 20 percent after the baseball strike, from 31,612 in 1994 to 25,260 in 1995.

• Cleveland expects a $37.5 million economic windfall from the All-Star game July 8 at Jacobs Field, Mayor Michael White estimated Monday. He said the game and related activities would draw more than 100,000 people over a five-day period. *(AP)*

Ambrose Reaches 1,000

CRICKET West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose scored his 1,000th test run as West Indies moved from its overnight first innings score of 252 runs for seven wickets to 333 all out just before lunch on the fifth and final day of the fourth cricket test against India on Tuesday in Antigua.

Ambrose, a 33-year old Antiguan, became only the third West Indian to achieve the double of 100 wickets and 1,000 runs. The other two were Sir Garfield Sobers and West Indies coach Malcolm Marshall. *(AFP)*

Brewers Beat Texas But Almost Forfeit

A Hailstorm of Giveaway Balls

The Associated Press

It was just above freezing, the fourth-coldest game in Milwaukee Brewers history, and the winds were whistling. Pipes were frozen, the soda machines were down, and an entire section in the lower seats was drenched when a water main broke.

"At least the skies are clear," Brewers manager Phil Garner said before the Brewers' game against Texas on Monday.

They didn't stay that way for long.

Unruly fans showered the field with souvenir baseballs, disrupting play three times, pushing the Brewers precariously close to the first forfeit in the club's 28-year history and prompting Bud Selig, baseball's acting commissioner and the owner of the Brewers, to issue a directive: Take away the giveaways!

"The teams were told not to give out the balls before the games," Phyllis Merhige, an American League spokeswoman, said after the Brewers' 5-3 victory.

A hardware-store chain sponsored the promotion during home openers at 19 of 28 major-league parks. Seven teams were supposed to hand out balls later this week — St. Louis on Tuesday, followed by Boston, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and the New York Yankees on Friday and the New York Mets on Saturday.

"It was frustrating, but to the fans' defense, I don't think they understood the seriousness of it," said Brewers catcher Mike Matheny, who called a masterful game and hit a grand slam.

"I don't think they understood that we were bordering on a forfeit," Matheny said, "and it was just a domino effect, something that started and we had a hard time getting it to stop."

Texas manager Johnny Oates played the game under protest. He pulled his players off the field twice in the second inning, with the delays lasting 14 and 16 minutes. The game also was delayed for a few minutes at the start.

"I wasn't just concerned about the players," Oates said. "I was concerned about the kids in the lower deck. I didn't want anybody to get hurt."

Although there were no reports of injuries, there were 112 citations issued by the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, including 14 for throwing baseballs onto the field — an offense carrying a $105 fine.

The shenanigans finally stopped after Garner and crew chief Jim McKean used the public address system to urge the rowdies in the crowd of 42,893 to settle down.

Milwaukee right-hander Cal Eldred, who was nearly plunked twice, said the players were actually more concerned for the fans' safety than their own.

"The worst thing we saw is that people were throwing them out of the upper deck and not getting them onto the field," he said.

"There's a lot of open space on the field, but people were getting hit in the back of the head. That's just not right. People expect to come out to the ball game and not have balls thrown at them."

The start of the game was delayed several minutes when dozens of fans pelted the field with the baseballs they had been given as they entered the stadium, site of several ugly incidents between fans and players in recent years.

The final delay came moments after Matheny's grand slam gave Milwaukee a 4-1 lead in the second inning. He connected off Ken Hill (1-1) with one out.

Oates instructed his team to take refuge in the dugout for a second time when two baseballs nearly hit left fielder Rusty Greer.

Tigers 10, Twins 4 The Tigers ended a string of 17 straight home losses with victory over Minnesota.

"Today was a fun day," Detroit manager Buddy Bell said, "a great day."

Brian Johnson hit a three-run homer as the Tigers won at home for the first time since last Aug. 30.

Justin Thompson (1-0) became the first Detroit starting pitcher to win since that Aug. 30 game, despite giving up four runs, eight hits and four walks in 6⅔ innings.

Athletics 6, Red Sox 2 In Oakland, Mark McGwire and Jason Giambi each hit two-run homers, and A's pitchers recorded 12 strikeouts.

Richie Lewis got the win in relief, and Billy Taylor earned his fourth save.

Indians 8, Mariners 3 In Seattle, Sandy Alomar and Manny Ramirez homered for Cleveland, and Charles Nagy beat the Mariners for the fifth straight time.

Nagy allowed one run and eight hits in 6⅔ innings.

The Indians scored four runs in the second off Scott Sanders (0-2). Alomar homered in a fourth straight game for the first time in his career, and Ramirez broke an 0-for-11 slump with his first homer this year.

Yankees 5, Angels 3 In Anaheim, Derek Jeter continued to impress from the leadoff spot with three hits and two runs scored. He has 13 hits in 18 at-bats after an 0-for-8 start.

AL ROUNDUP

Orlin Wagner/The Associated Press

Roberto Alomar of the Orioles swinging against Kansas City.

For Alomar, Season Starts With Boos

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY — Roberto Alomar was booed by Kansas City fans each time he came to the plate, but turned in a fine performance in his first game since he finished his five-game suspension for spitting in the face of umpire John Hirschbeck.

Alomar was soft-spoken with reporters and fans alike after he arrived at Kauffman Stadium for Baltimore's game with the Royals, who won, 6-5, in the bottom of the ninth.

"I just want to go out there and play the game of baseball," Alomar said after getting two hits. "The fans are entitled to their own opinion and that's all I can say about it.

After Brady Anderson doubled to lead off the game, Alomar dropped a perfect sacrifice bunt to move him to third. A sacrifice fly by Rafael Palmeiro then produced the Orioles' first run.

Alomar, plagued by a badly sprained ankle that was heavily taped, made a diving stop in the second inning on a grounder that skipped off the edge of the infield grass. He left for a pinch-runner after singling to start the eighth.

"The main thing for me was it was good to be out there," he said. "It was a good day for me." He was allowed to complete the 1996 season and play in postseason games, then sat out his suspension at the start of this season.

Alomar was booed in the pregame introductions of the team and in each of his four plate appearances. He got mild cheers for his fine defensive play, but there were more cheers when he struck out in the second inning.

When will the booing stop?

"I just don't know," said Alomar, who signed about 25 autographs as fans gathered behind the Orioles dugout before the team took batting practice. "I wish I knew."

Butler Helps Dodgers Outlast Mets in a Marathon

The Associated Press

Brett Butler wasn't even at Dodger Stadium at the start of the game with the Mets, but he scored the winning run.

Butler missed a start for the first time this season Monday night because of soreness in his jaw.

In the 15th inning he scored from second base on Tom Prince's infield single to give Los Angeles a 3-2 victory over New York.

The five-hour marathon finished Tuesday morning at six minutes past midnight. Butler entered the game in the ninth inning as a defensive replacement.

"He has a swollen lymph node behind the left side of the jaw," said the team doctor, Michael Mellman, during an impromptu news conference in the third inning. "He has been placed on antibiotics, and his progress will be followed."

Butler, 39, missed most of last season after tonsil cancer was diagnosed in May and he underwent surgery and radiation treatments. He had played every inning of his team's first six games. He was in uniform in the dugout by the fourth inning.

Todd Zeile walked to start the 15th inning against Joe Crawford, who was making his big-league debut, and Butler then grounded into a force play.

Butler stole second while Greg Gagne was striking out, and Prince then hit a roller to first baseman John Olerud, whose throw to Crawford was too late to get Prince for the third out.

Butler, meanwhile, never slowed as he rounded third and slid home without a throw.

He also walked twice and sacrificed before the 15th.

As for his jaw, he said: "I had the doctor tell me, 'Hey, it's not what you're thinking. Everything's fine. About four or five days ago, it started bothering me, I decided today to get it checked out."

Butler described his pain as a dull ache on the left side of his jaw. He was examined by Dr. John Rehm, an ear, nose and throat specialist, who prescribed antibiotics.

"Brett's past history is what magnifies this event," Dr. Mellman said. "Having said that, we don't have any reason to believe there's a recurrence of his cancer. Nothing's been defined here."

Bill Russell, the Dodgers' manager, said: "Brett's fine, as you saw. He got on base, did what we needed. Heck, he got four at-bats."

By the game's end, neither team had a position player left, and the only non-starting pitcher left for either team was the Dodgers' Todd Worrell.

Pedro Astacio (1-0), normally a starter, pitched three shutout innings for the win. Crawford was recalled from the minor leagues Monday when the Mets placed pitcher Pete Harnisch on the 15-day disabled list.

"I fly in and get an 'L,'" Crawford said. "I felt good once I got my jitters out of the way."

Padres 3, Pirates 2 Chris Gomez's run-scoring single with two outs in the 10th inning gave host San Diego the victory after blowing two chances to win it in the ninth.

With one out in the 10th, Matt Ruebel walked Greg Vaughn, who took second on Wally Joyner's single. Gomez then bounced his game-winning single through the hole into left.

Giants 4, Phillies 3 In San Francisco, Shawn Estes came off the disabled list to win his season debut, allowing two runs in 5⅓ innings. Estes, who missed his first start and much of spring training with biceps tendinitis, kept the Phillies hitless until pinch hitter Kevin Sefcik singled with two outs in the fifth inning.

Rockies 13, Reds 2 Jeff Reed and Vinny Castilla hit three-run homers, and Bill Swift pitched six strong innings for the Rockies' fifth straight victory.

The Rockies drew 48,014 for their home opener, extending their consecutive sellout streak to 133 games, a major league record. The crowd got what it wanted — Colorado scored five times in the first inning and led 10-0 by the fourth.

NL ROUNDUP

Jackie Robinson Wasn't the Very First

Fleet Walker, a Black Catcher, Played in the Major Leagues in 1884

By Ira Berkow
New York Times Service

He was a handsome man, tall and slender. He was the son of a physician, attended Oberlin College and the University of Michigan, and studied mathematics, Greek, rhetoric, mechanics, natural philosophy, French, civil engineering, zoology, astronomy, German, botany, logic and Latin. He was also an athlete, and excelled at baseball.

He was Moses Fleetwood Walker, and he was a catcher. In 1884 he became the first and the last African-American to play in the major leagues until Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier 63 years later. His brother Welday, an outfielder, also played six mid-season games on the same team that year.

Baseball is celebrating the 50th anniversary of Robinson's arrival with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. A commemorative stamp has been issued. Universities are holding symposiums about the sociological impact of a ballplayer. Every major-league player is wearing a patch in honor of Robinson. But little is known, or remembered, about Fleet Walker.

On finishing college in 1883, Walker joined the Toledo Blue Stockings, then in the International League. The next year, Toledo moved up to the American Association, and Walker went along. The American Association was considered on par with the National League, but less prestigious.

In "Only the Ball was White," a history of the black men in baseball before Jackie Robinson, Robert Peterson writes: "Walker's reception in the big leagues was mixed. If the other players resented his presence, they gave no outward indication of it, and spectators, on the whole, seemed favorably inclined toward him except in the league's two distinctly southern cities."

Those cities were Louisville and Richmond. In Louisville, the Toledo Blade reported, Walker was "hissed and insulted because of his color." In Richmond, Toledo's manager, Charlie Morton, received a letter threatening to "mob" the "Negro catcher" if "he comes on the ground in a suit."

Walker did not play that day. He had suffered a rib injury from a foul tip — chest protectors for catchers had not yet been introduced.

He was released from the team in September, having played in 42 games for Toledo and batted .263. He was considered an adequate backstop, his .888 fielding average being 26th in the league for catchers.

The Toledo team, suffering financial problems, disbanded after that season, and no major-league team picked up either brother. (Welday had batted .182)

For the next few years, a handful of black players — including Fleet Walker — played in the minor leagues. That ended on July 19, 1887, in Newark, New Jersey. Adrian (Cap) Anson, first-baseman and manager of the Chicago White Stockings, said his team would not play an exhibition game against the minor-league Newark team if Newark, as announced, sent their ace pitcher, George Stovey, a black man, to the mound.

It is a part of baseball folklore that Anson said, "Get that nigger off the field." Newark acquiesced. Stovey did not play. Jim Crow did, and would for years to come.

Some major-league teams tried to circumvent the color barrier. In 1901, John McGraw, manager of the Baltimore Orioles of the American League, sought to sign a light-skinned black second-baseman named Charlie Grant, and called him "Charlie Tokohama, a full-blooded Cherokee." But McGraw's ruse was exposed by Charles Comiskey, owner of the White Sox.

Meanwhile, Fleet Walker had returned home to Steubenville, Ohio. At one point, as a newspaper editor, he urged the emigration of all black people to Africa. Only "failure and disappointment" were in store for "the colored man in America," he wrote.

Moses Fleetwood Walker died in 1924, aged 67, never having left America's shores.

Iverson Scores 44, but 76ers Can't Beat Bulls

The Associated Press

Despite Allen Iverson's career-high 44 points, the Bulls beat the Philadelphia 76ers 128-102 Monday night to clinch homecourt advantage throughout the playoffs. Chicago (66-10) can match last season's record 72-win total by winning its remaining six regular-season games.

"We'd like to win 70; we'd like to win 72," said Phil Jackson, the Bulls coach. "But from now on, it has no relevant factor."

Chicago won its 31st consecutive home game with 30 points contributed by Michael Jordan, while Scottie Pippen added 28 points. Ron Harper had a season-high 22 for the Bulls, who are 38-1 at the United Center. Chicago can tie Boston's 1986 record for best home mark by beating Toronto and New York.

Jazz 116, Spurs 93 The Jazz won their 13th straight game, beating injury-riddled San Antonio Spurs.

Karl Malone scored 26 points for the Jazz, who can clinch the best record in the Western Conference by beating the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday.

"They're a very good basketball team, and they came out and beat us exactly the way they needed to," said Gregg Popovich, the Spurs coach. "Along with Chicago, they're the best executing team in the league."

Hornets 110, Cavaliers 108 Glen Rice scored 42 points and Charlotte overcame a 19-point deficit in Cleveland.

Heat 94, Pistons 88 P.J. Brown had 21 points and 13 rebounds and Tim Hardaway just missed a triple-double as Miami won in Detroit.

Blazers 110, Nuggets 104 Isaiah Rider scored 28 points as Portland won in Denver. The Nuggets hit 11 3-pointers to lead 61-58 at halftime, but only one in the second half as Portland took command.

NBA ROUNDUP

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مكتبة الأحرار

SPORTS

Cup Play Under the Cloud of Terrorism

International Herald Tribune

European Soccer / **Rob Hughes**

LONDON — The European cups, the coveted silverware of soccer's spring, are as close now as flowers to blossom. But as the semifinal first legs attract ever widening television attention, so the dangers at the playing grounds deepens.

Manchester United's reawakening in the UEFA Champions' League has already brought the sound of gunfire. In Vienna last autumn, two United *fans were shot by an Austrian* after a nightclub argument; in Oporto, Portugal, last month, scores of Manchester followers were scattered, and some wounded, by the indiscriminate firing of plastic pellet bullets by riot police.

Now, as 3,000 Manchester United fans head for Dortmund, Germany, where their team plays Wednesday, there is a new and sinister threat. The Irish Republican Army, stepping up a campaign of terror before Britain's May 1 general election, has abandoned its former tacit agreement that sports are counterproductive targets for its weapons.

Sport, transmitted into hundreds of millions of homes across 150 or more nations, offers an irresistible platform to those who call themselves an army, but work behind masks of anonymity. I have seen IRA men and Northern Ireland loyalist paramilitaries stand side by side at youth league matches in the magnificent Carnbane league near Newry, on the Irish border.

Their sons were in the same colors, chasing the shared honor of a cup somewhat less illustrious than the European Cup, but no less desired by the youth of Ireland's troubled border regions, where 93 teams entered the competition and never a question was asked about religious or political affiliations. That innocence may still exist. But there is no way that Dortmund's police dare assume that the match Wednesday between Borussia Dortmund and Manchester United will not be targeted by terrorists. Stop me here: Tell me you are reading the sports pages for the pleasure of a recreation which, even in its coating of commercialism, embraces the notion that all that counts is for the best team to win.

I share your wish. I would love to concentrate on the relative merits of Dortmund's Andreas Moller and Manchester United's flowering youth, David Beckham. It would be marvelous to confine sports page comment to the question of whether Roy Keane, Manchester United's superbly gifted but volatile southern Irish midfielder, can impose his skill rather than his temper on Dortmund's fine playing field. I would prefer to assess the impact of Matthias Sammer's one-match ban on Borussia's chances. Sammer, red of hair and smooth of movement in turning defense to attack, is to my eye the outstanding performer in European soccer over the past 12 months.

Indeed, Sammer's transition from East to West German soccer is a statement in itself on the futility of dividing up nations by politically designed walls and dogmas. Dortmund will miss him in the crowded Westfallen Stadion, especally because Julio Cesar, the Brazilian center back and, Jurgen Kohler are both suffering injuries and may be absent.

Even as I write, such considerations pale in significance. I am one of the 70,000 racegoers who had to be evacuated from the Aintree track in Liverpool last Saturday when an IRA bomb threat came half an hour before the 150th Grand National.

It is a race that draws a worldwide TV audience, just as the Olympics do, just as Wednesday's soccer matches are scheduled to. The British turned their Grand National into a cause célèbre, and 20,000 of us exercised our right to maintain sporting traditions by returning to Aintree on Monday.

The race was won in a canter by a New Zealand-bred horse with an Irish name, Lord Gyllene. Its jockey is a slip of an Irish lad from Downpatrick, Tony Dobbin, who had the courage to distance himself publicly from the bombers and admit his deep sense of shame in coming from Northern Ireland. He simply rode for his chance of a lifetime, and rode home in front of 20,000 people who did not give a damn where he was born and bred.

WE SHARED the sporting spirit. The IRA, simply by making two coded phone calls and this time not even bothering to plant one of their heinous devices, gave no thought to the fact that English and Irish bloodstock, human and equine, is mixed and is especially bonded in horse racing.

Why, then, would its bombers, or bomb hoaxers, hesitate because Manchester United has a huge Irish following? Why would the fact that Keane, and also Dennis Irwin, United's calm defender, both hail from Cork, in the south of the divided island of Ireland.

The IRA has grown increasingly desperate to use anyone and anything as its victims. Its leaders claimed responsibility last week for planting a Semtex bomb beneath an expressway bridge en route to the Grand National, and then followed up with a hollow but "effective" couple of cheap calls to disrupt the sporting event and hijack the 400 million TV audience switched on for Saturday's steeplechase.

Now, Germany's police and its people have to be vigilant. Sport unites our lives and offers us opportunity to bury our cultural, political, and nationalistic differences.

Sport is precious, and I for one would look down the barrel of terrorist threat to defend it. In the turmoil of the postponed, but defiant Grand National, CNN pronounced that a couple of phone calls was now all it takes to destroy a world event.

No. Disrupt, but never destroy. We are more resilient than that because, if we want fun and meaning and distraction *from* Page One horrors, we have to stage the big events.

In that spirit, I suggest Dortmund, a squad containing a dozen European Cup goal scorers this season, might overcome injury problems and gain a significant first leg lead over Manchester United on Wednesday.

The other semifinal, in Amsterdam's new sports Arena, is harder to call. Juventus, the reigning European champion, is in fantastic form, having beaten AC Milan, 6-1, on Sunday.

Ajax, after a depressed season, is getting back its injured but cannot recall players who left for greater profits.

Nevertheless, Ajax knows it is now or never again for the present squad, whose coach, Louis van Gaal, is also about to depart. The first leg could be very close, the second leg in two weeks time almost a cup final in its own right.

Just so long as it is peaceful.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London.

San Seebbelone Reuter

The Flyers' Eric Lindros flattening the Rangers' Bill Berg as Ulf Samuelson moved in.

Lindros Cools as Rangers Win, 3-2

The Associated Press

Eric Lindros watched from the penalty box as the New York Rangers scored twice to beat his Philadelphia Flyers. If the Rangers have their way, he'll be a spectator for their next meeting, too.

Lindros was targeted by the Rangers' checkers. In the second period, Jeff Beukeboom, Karpovtsev and Churla delivered punishing checks to the Flyers' captain. He responded in kind, getting a double-minor penalty for high-sticking Shane Churla. As he sat in the penalty box, Alexander Karpovtsev and Brian Leetch scored to give New York a 3-2 victory Monday.

Churla thought Lindros should have been ejected. "My nose is on the side of my face. What else do you need?" he asked.

Lindros had two more high-sticking penalties in the third and, at the buzzer, cross-checked Ulf Samuelsson in the face. The Rangers say he should be suspended for Thursday's rematch in Philadelphia.

NHL Roundup

Whalers 4, Sabres 2 Geoff Sanderson scored twice to lead the Whalers over Buffalo and strengthen their grip on the final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Canadiens 2, Islanders 1 Benoit Brunet ricocheted a backhand shot off an opposing defenseman with 3:10 to go, giving the Canadiens a victory over visiting New York.

Stars 2, Coyotes 2 In Phoenix, Andy Moog, recovered from a back injury and a sprained ankle, stopped 25 shots for Dallas.

Canucks 3, Sharks 2 Vancouver kept alive its slim playoff hopes when Sergei Nemchinov scored off the post in the third period.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Major League Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	4	2	.667	—
Boston	3	3	.500	1
New York	3	3	.500	1
Detroit	3	4	.429	1½
Toronto	2	3	.400	1½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	4	2	.667	—
Milwaukee	3	2	.600	½
Minnesota	4	3	.571	½
Kansas City	3	3	.500	1
Chicago	2	3	.400	1½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	4	2	.667	—
Texas	2	3	.400	1½
Anaheim	2	4	.333	2
Seattle	2	4	.333	2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Florida	5	1	.833	—
Atlanta	4	2	.667	1
Montreal	3	3	.500	2
New York	2	5	.286	3½
Philadelphia	2	5	.286	3½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	5	1	.833	—
Cincinnati	4	2	.667	1½
Pittsburgh	2	4	.333	3
Chicago	0	6	.000	5
St. Louis	0	6	.000	5

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Colorado	5	2	.714	—
Los Angeles	5	2	.714	—
San Diego	5	2	.714	—
San Francisco	4	2	.667	½

MONDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Minnesota 100 001 200—4 9 3
Detroit 020 200 05x—10 9 0

Rodriguez, Aldred (5), Trombley (7), Guardado (8), Nauitty (8) and Steinbach; Thompson, Sager (7), Jones (9) and Johnson. W—Thompson, 1-0. L—Rodriguez, 0-1. HR—Detroit, B. Johnson (1).

Baltimore 100 002 011—5 10 0
Kansas City 100 002 021—6 12 2

Key, Mills (7), Benitez (8) and Hoiles; Appier, Jacome (8), Bevil (9), Walker (9) and Spehr. Fasano (7). W—Walker, 1-1. L—Benitez, 0-1. HRs— Baltimore, Anderson (1), Kansas City, Paquette (1), King (1).

Texas 101 001 000—3 7 1
Milwaukee 040 010 00x—5 7 0

Hill, Gunderson (7), Patterson (7), Wetteland (9) and Rodriguez; Eldred, Mercedes (4), Wickman (8), Jones (9) and Matheny. W—Eldred, 1-0. L—Hill, 1-1. Sv—Jones (3). HRs—Texas, Tatteleon (3). Milwaukee, Matheny (1).

Boston 000 011 000—2 4 0
Oakland 000 200 22x—6 8 1

Gordon, Mahomes (8), Eshelman (8) and Hassleman; Prieto, R. Lewis (7), Groom (8), Taylor (9) and Molina. W—R. Lewis, 2-0. L—Gordon, 0-1. S—Taylor (4). HRs—Oakland, Giambi (2), McGwire (2). Boston, Nashring (3).

Cleveland 040 001 030 —8 9 0
Seattle 000 000 111 —3 11 1

Nagy, Assenmacher (7), Plesac (8) and S. Alomar; S.Sanders, Torres (7) and Da.Wilson, Morgano (9). W—Nagy, 1-0. L—S. Sanders, 0-2. HRs—Cleveland, S. Alomar (4), Ramirez (1). Seattle, E. Martinez (2).

New York 100 101 210—5 12 1
Anaheim 000 000 300—3 10 0

Pettitte, Lloyd (7), Boehringer (7), Stanton (8); M. Rivera (8) and Girardi. Langston, D. Springer (7), James (8), Holtz (9) and Td.Greene, Fabregas (9). W—Pettitte, 2-0. L—Langston, 0-1. S—M. Rivera (2).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cincinnati 000 011 000—2 3 1
Colorado 000 000 21x—3 13 1

Burba, Mercker (4), Service (6), Jarvis (8) and Taubensee; Swift, Holmes (7) and Reed. W—Swift, 1-1. L—Burba, 1-1. Sv—Holmes (1). HRs—Colorado, Reed (2), Castilla (4).

Pittsburgh 000 000 011 —2 7 2
San Diego 000 001 010 —1 10 0

Lieber, Granger (8), Wainhouse (8), Ruebel (9) and Kendall. Osik (8); Ashby, Hoffman (9), D. Veras (10) and Flaherty. W—D. Veras, 1-0. L—Ruebel, 1-1. HR—San Diego, Caminiti (2).

Philadelphia 000 002 100—3 7 1
San Francisco 310 000 00x—4 5 0

Madura, Ruffcorn (5), Blazier (7), Plantenberg (8) and Lieberthal; Estes, Tavarez (6), R. Rodriguez (7), D. Henry (8), Beck (9). W—Estes, 1-0. L—Madura, 0-2. S—Beck (4).

N.Y. 000 002 000 000 000—2 7 0
L.A. 000 000 020 000 001—3 12 0

M.Clark, McMichael (8), Borland (9), R. Jordan (10), Manuel (10), Ja.Franco (12), Crawford (15) and Hundley, Castillo (10); Nomo, Candiotti (7), Radinsky (8), Hall (9), Gathright (11), Astacio (12) and Piazza. Prince (11). W—Astacio, 1-0. L—Crawford, 0-1. HR—New York, Hundley (2).

Japanese Leagues

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct	GB
Yakult	3	1	0	.750	—
Hanshin	2	1	0	.667	½
Chunichi	2	2	0	.500	1
Yokohama	2	2	0	.500	1
Hiroshima	1	2	0	.333	1½
Yomiuri	1	3	0	.250	2

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Chunichi 7, Yomiuri 4
Hanshin 11, Yokohama 6
Yakult 10, Hiroshima 6

PACIFIC LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct	GB
Daiei	2	0	0	1.000	—
Kintetsu	1	0	0	1.000	½
Lotte	2	1	0	.667	½
Seibu	1	1	0	.500	1
Orix	0	1	0	.000	1½
Nippon Ham	0	3	0	.000	2½

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Daiei 7, Nippon Ham 5
Kintetsu 4, Lotte 2
Seibu 5, Orix 4

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Miami	57	18	.760	—
x-New York	53	22	.707	4
Orlando	41	34	.547	16
Washington	39	36	.520	18
New Jersey	23	51	.311	33½
Philadelphia	21	54	.280	36
Boston	13	63	.171	44½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Chicago	66	10	.868	—
x-Detroit	51	24	.680	14½
x-Atlanta	51	24	.680	14½
x-Charlotte	49	26	.653	16½
Cleveland	38	37	.507	27½
Indiana	37	38	.493	28½
Milwaukee	29	45	.392	36
Toronto	27	48	.360	38½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	58	17	.773	—
x-Houston	51	24	.680	7
Minnesota	37	38	.493	21
Dallas	22	53	.293	36
Denver	20	55	.267	38
San Antonio	19	56	.253	39
Vancouver	12	65	.156	47

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Seattle	52	24	.684	—
x-L.A. Lakers	51	24	.680	½
x-Portland	45	32	.584	7½
Phoenix	36	39	.480	15½
L.A. Clippers	34	41	.453	17½
Sacramento	30	45	.400	21½
Golden State	28	47	.373	23½

(y-clinched division title)
(x-clinched playoff berth)

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Charlotte 18 24 25 31 12—110
Cleveland 32 23 16 27 7—105

Ch: Rice 11-27 15-16 42, Pierce 5-13 5-6 15; Ct: Ferry 9-20 3-4 23, Mills 7-10 4-6 22. Brandon 8-15 4-4 21, Potapenko 8-11 4-6 20. Rebounds—Charlotte 42 (Geiger, Rose 7), Cleveland 36 (West 6). Assists—Charlotte 25 (Bogues 8), Cleveland 26 (Sura 8).

Miami 23 18 26 27— 94
Detroit 21 24 15 28— 88

M: Brown 8-13 5-5 21, Mourning 4-11 13-16 21; D: Thorpe 11-18 1-1 23, Hill 5-15 11-18 21. Rebounds—Miami 51 (Brown 13), Detroit 41 (Thorpe 14). Assists—Miami 17 (Hardaway 9), Detroit 16 (Hill 7).

Philadelphia 19 35 23 25—102
Chicago 28 29 30 41—128

P: Iverson 16-32 6-8 44, Weatherspoon 8-18 3-4 19; C: Jordan 13-25 1-2 30, Pippen 12-24 3-3 28. Rebounds—Philadelphia 43 (Weatherspoon 12), Chicago 73 (Longley 11). Assists—Philadelphia 17 (Iverson 8), Chicago 36 (Harper 7).

Portland 32 26 32 20—110
Denver 38 23 21 22—104

P: Rider 12-17 2-2 28, C.Robinson 9-17 2-2 23; D: Hammonds 10-19 9-14 29, D.Ellis 5-13 4-4 18. Rebounds—Portland 60 (Dudley 13), Denver 42 (Johnson 15). Assists—Portland 27 (Anderson 9), Denver 23 (D.Ellis 6).

San Antonio 16 24 29 24— 93
Utah 31 30 24 31—116

S.A.: Alexander 7-13 5-6 24, Felix 4-7 7-11 15, Williams 5-15 5-7 15; U: Malone 9-16 8-10 26, Hornacek 7-9 3-4 19, Stockton 6-7 5-6 19. Rebounds—San Antonio 45 (Fleck 10), Utah 56 (Osterlag 9). Assists—San Antonio 19 (Williams 6), Utah 26 (Stockton 8).

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-New Jersey	44	21	13	101	221	171
x-Philadelphia	44	23	12	100	263	204
x-Florida	33	28	19	85	213	197
x-N.Y. Rangers	37	33	10	84	250	224
Tampa Bay	30	39	9	69	206	238
Washington	30	40	9	69	197	224
N.Y. Islanders	28	39	12	68	231	237

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Buffalo	39	28	12	90	229	198
x-Pittsburgh	37	33	8	82	274	264
Montreal	30	35	14	74	241	269
Hartford	31	37	11	73	216	244
Ottawa	28	36	15	71	217	226
Boston	25	44	9	59	225	287

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
z-Dallas	47	24	8	102	246	189
x-Detroit	37	24	17	91	244	186
x-Phoenix	37	36	7	81	230	235
St. Louis	33	35	11	77	227	237
Chicago	32	34	13	77	211	204
Toronto	29	42	8	66	223	264

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
z-Colorado	48	22	9	105	272	196
x-Anaheim	34	33	13	81	237	229
x-Edmonton	36	35	8	80	243	233
Vancouver	33	40	7	73	246	265
Calgary	32	38	9	73	208	225
Los Angeles	26	42	11	63	205	261
San Jose	26	45	8	60	203	269

(z-clinched division title)
(x-clinched playoff berth)

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Buffalo 2 0 0—2
Hartford 0 1 3—4

First Period: B-Safan 23 (Hatzinger) 2, B-Smehlik 11 (Satan, Zalapik) Second Period: H-K.Primeau 26 (Emerson, Burke) Third Period: H-Chisson 8 (Emerson, Primeau) (pp). 5, H-Sanderson 24 (Cassels, Chisson) (pp). 6, H-Sanderson 25 (Cassels, Dineen) Shots on goal: B- 13-7-6—24, H- 13-17-11—41. Goalies: B-Hasek. H-Burke.

N.Y. Islanders 0 0 1—1
Montreal 1 0 1—2

First Period: M-Malakhov 9 (Bure, Kaivu) (pp). Second Period: None. Third Period: New York, Berlucci 10 (Belanger, Vaske) 3, M-Brunet 10 (Malakhov, Rucinsky) Shots on goal: New York 7-10-9—26, M- 11-9-15—35. Goalies: New York, Salo. M-Thibault.

Philadelphia 2 0 0—2
N.Y. Rangers 0 3 0—3

First Period: P-Falloon 11 (Brind'Amour) 2, P-Lindros 31 (LeClair, Klatt) Second Period: New York, Lidster 3 (Courtnall, Karpovtsev) 4, New York, Karpovtsev 9 (Leetch, Gretzky) (pp). 5, New York, Leetch 20 (Gretzky, Graves) (pp). Third Period: None. Shots on goal: P-9-6-14—29. New York 6-15-6—27. Goalies: P-Hextall. New York, Richter.

Dallas 1 1 0 0—2
Phoenix 1 1 0 0—2

First Period: D-Lehtinen 15 (Modano, Zubov) 2, Phoenix, Roenick 27 (Drake, Numminen) (pp). Second Period: Phoenix, Drake 15 (Ronning, Roenick) 4, D-Nieuwendyk 30 (Langenbrunner, Gilchrist) Third Period: None. Overtime: None. Shots on goal: D- 10-8-9-3—30. Phoenix 12-6-8-1—27. Goalies: D-Moog. Phoenix, Khabibulin.

Vancouver 1 0 2—3
San Jose 1 1 0—2

First Period: S.J.-Granato 24 (Peltonen, Gill) 2, V-Noonan 12 (Sillinger, Lumme) Second Period: S.J.-Peltonen 1 (Turcotte, Bodger) (pp). Third Period: V-Naslund 19 (Bohonos, Ridley) 5, V-Nemchinov 8 (Brashear, Walker) Shots on goal: V- 4-9-11—24, S.J.- 8-8-10—26. Goalies: V-McLean. S.J.-Hrudey.

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Leeds 0, Blackburn 0

STANDINGS: Manchester United 63; Arsenal 60, Liverpool 60; Newcastle 53, Aston Villa 53; Chelsea 49, Sheffield Wednesday 49; Wimbledon 46; Tottenham 42, Leeds 42; Leicester 39; Derby 38; Blackburn 37; Everton 36; Sunderland 34; West Ham 33, Coventry 32; Middlesbrough 32; Nottingham Forest 31; Southampton 30.

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

Real Madrid 0, Compostela 0

STANDINGS: Real Madrid 73; Barcelona 66; Real Betis 64; Deportivo Coruna 63; Atletico Madrid 55; Athletic Bilbao 48; Valladolid 48; Real Sociedad 47; Tenerife 44; Valencia 43; Racing Santander 42; Celta Vigo 39; Oviedo 38; Compostela 37; Sporting Gijon 35; Extremadura 35; Espanyol 34; Zaragoza 33; Rayo Vallecano 33; Hercules 28, Logrones 28; Sevilla 26.

CRICKET

FOURTH TEST

WEST INDIES VS. INDIA

MONDAY, IN ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA

West Indies innings: 252-7

FIFTH ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA VS. SOUTH AFRICA

TUESDAY, IN JOHANNESBURG

Australia innings: 258-7 (50 overs)

SHARJAH CUP

ZIMBABWE VS SRI LANKA

TUESDAY, IN SHARJAH, UAE

Zimbabwe innings: 203 (49.5 overs)
Sri Lanka innings: 153 (46.1 overs)

ICC TROPHY SEMIFINAL

BANGLADESH VS. SCOTLAND

TUESDAY, IN KUALA LUMPUR

Bangladesh innings: 243-7 (50 overs)
Match interrupted due to rain.

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE —Activated OF Pete Incaviglia from 15-day disabled list. Sent OF Tony Tarasco to Rochester, IL.

KANSAS CITY—Put INF Jose Offerman and C Mike Macfarlane on 15-day disabled list. Bought contract of Shane Halter from Omaha, AA. Called up C Sal Fasano from Omaha.

SEATTLE —Agreed to terms with C Dan Wilson on 2-year contract extension through 1999.

TAMPA BAY —Signed SS Chris Martin and assigned him to team's minor-league extended spring training program.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

CINCINNATI —Claimed RHP Scott Service off waivers from Oakland Athletics. Optioned OF Ozzie Timmons to Indianapolis, AA.

HOUSTON —Put 3B Sean Berry on 15-day disabled list. Recalled INF Russ Johnson from New Orleans, AA.

N.Y. METS—Put LHP Yorkis Perez on 15-day disabled list. Bought contract of LHP Brian Bohanon from Norfolk, IL.

SAN FRANCISCO —Activated INF Desi Wilson from disabled list and optioned him to Phoenix, PCL.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

DENVER—Signed G Jimmy King.

PHILADELPHIA —Put G Lucious Harris on injured list. Signed G Frankie King to 10-day contract.

PHOENIX —Signed C Mike Brown for remainder of season.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

CINCINNATI —Signed QB Boomer Esiason to 2-year contract.

DALLAS —Signed S Brock Marion.

KANSAS —Signed WR Reggie Jones, DT Chris Maumalanga and TE Billy Khayat.

NEW ENGLAND —Re-signed LB Todd Collins.

NEW ORLEANS —Named Jack Del Rio assistant strength coach.

PHILADELPHIA —Signed WR Nate Singleton and RB Corey Croom.

PITTSBURGH —Traded DL Brentson Buckner to Kansas City Chiefs for 1997 seventh-round draft choice.

SAN DIEGO —Signed FB Robert Chancey to three-year contract.

WASHINGTON —Signed CB Cris Dishman to 4-year contract and S Jesse Campbell to 3-year contract.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

COLORADO —Returned G Jean-Francois Labbe to Hershey, AHL.

LOS ANGELES —Recalled C Jason Morgan from Mississippi, East Coast Hockey League.

NEW JERSEY —Loaned G Frederic Henry to Albany, AHL.

PHOENIX —Recalled D Deron Quint from Springfield, AHL.

PITTSBURGH—Announced retirement of C Mario Lemieux, effective at end of season.

COLLEGE

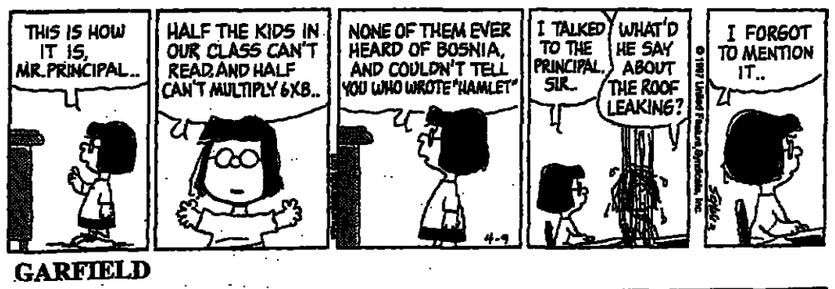
COLORADO—Announced G Chauncey Billups will forgo final two years of eligibility and enter the NBA draft.

WEST VIRGINIA—Announced F Gordon Malone will forego his final season of eligibility to enter the NBA draft.

DENNIS THE MENACE

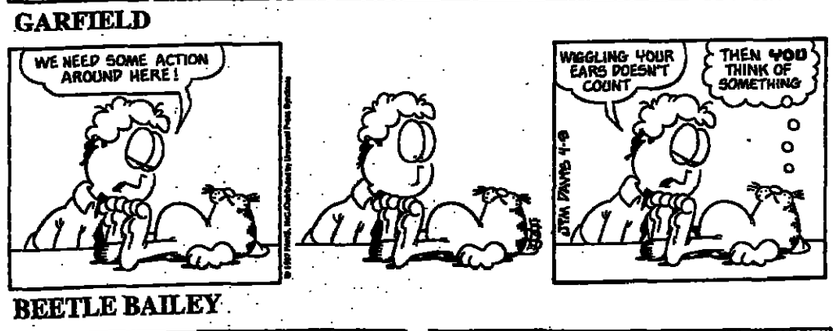
"SHOULDN'T THEY HAVE SOME PRIVACY?"

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES

GARFIELD



WIZARD of ID

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORXAB
DYKEE
WEFTES
WHALLO

WHY THE AUTHOR REFUSED HIS DINNER OFFER

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: SHE "_____" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ACUTE CRIME PAUNCH EQUATE
Answer: What she got when she married the fisherman — QUITE A CATCH

FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION
Read
THE MONEY REPORT
every Saturday
in the IHT.
Herald Tribune
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

BEETLE BAILEY

NON SEQUITUR

DOONESBURY

BLONDIE

OBSERVER

Back to the Bookcase

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Reading matter:

"Inside U.S.A." by John Gunther is an absolutely terrific book. Example from Gunther's minute-by-minute diary of a day with New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia: "10.55 A.M. The mayor said, 'This is a lull. I had planned to open a tunnel.' So I had a chance to ask some questions. But not many. Lull lasted until 10.58."

It took Gunther more than 900 pages to create this portrait of America in the late 1940s. Published in 1947, it returns from oblivion in a new 50th anniversary edition. Gunther was a superb reporter with no axes to grind, and his book is a tribute to the ancient virtues of objective reporting. As the jacket blurb says, you "may be astonished" to see how the country has changed.

□

One respect in which 1947 America excelled the 1997 model was that it did not produce books like "Microsoft Word: User's Guide." This is the worst computer manual ever written. I embarked at page 1 determined to master the technique of writing "Now is the time for all good men to come to the et cetera" on my screen.

By page 4, I was lost in a bog of incomprehensible instructions for using something called "toolbars."

For relief I turned to Anne Brontë and "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall." What a relief. Since the reader is always 50 pages ahead of the author in this Victorian potboiler it is possible to nap for an hour and not miss a thing.

When not dozing, one yearns to cry. "Get on with it, Anne. We all knew Arthur was a bounder even before noble, love-besotted, silly, unobservant Helen married him 80 pages ago."

Sister Charlotte Brontë's masterpiece, "Jane Eyre," is the father and mother of the Gothic romance, unsurpassed to this day even by Georgette Heyer. Sister Emily's "Wuthering Heights" is nearly as good.

Here's a new book to look forward to: Roy Jenkins' biography of Gladstone. It is 631 pages long. Though I put it aside at page 28, I intend to read the next 603 before the next few years are out.

Why? Not because everyone should know plenty about Gladstone, but because the writing is so good.

I put him aside now only because of a commitment to Francis Parkman's "France and England in North America," which runs to some 2,900 pages in the Library of America editions. Columnists ought to know that primitive history of the continent before they presume to dilate on the present state of the world.

You, however, may not be a columnist. If not, here's a swell read: John Dos Passos' "U.S.A.," also in a Library of America edition. It reminds you of an age when we had an authentic radical tradition instead of today's milksoppy "liberalism."

Its thumbnail sketches ("Tin Lizzie," "The Unknown Soldier," e.g.) are American writing at its best. And speaking of best, here is Sherwood Anderson's "Winesburg, Ohio," published in 1919. Does anybody still read it? This copy came from a used-book sale. A treasure for only 50 cents.

Yes, Virginia, if the Internet fails, life can still go on.

New York Times Service

The Far Side of Pianist Mitsuko Uchida

By Dinitia Smith
New York Times Service

Sara Krulwich/The New York Times

Uchida's listeners come for more than the music; her concerts are also a visual spectacle.

NEW YORK — "I have not a clue about late Beethoven!" the pianist Mitsuko Uchida said with a little giggle. "But then, who has got a clue?"

The remark seemed disingenuous, coming from one of the world's foremost concert pianists. But then, this is a virtuoso with a sense of humor who reads "Calvin and Hobbes" and "The Far Side" when she is not studying Goethe or Heine in preparation for playing Schubert.

Uchida was in New York preparing for a series of recitals in New York and Boston.

Her twice-annual New York appearances have become hot tickets, almost like rock concerts for the intelligentsia, attended by celebrities (often stylishly in black) including her friends Susan Sontag and Annie Leibovitz.

They are drawn to Uchida's playing, of course. The notes ripple across the piano like drops of water on crystal. Her interpretations are etched, delicate, seeming to envelope the audience in a diaphanous cloud.

But the concerts are also a visual spectacle. Uchida, usually dressed in a flowing top and skirt, sweeps her arms dramatically across the keyboard. She trembles with feeling, her face suffused with a kind of rapturous sorrow, a face compared to that of a figure by the 19th-century artist Hokusai. "She dazzles her listeners," the critic Allan Kozinn wrote in The New York Times, praising her "speed, precision and power."

Uchida talks about music with passion and intensity. This month, she releases her first recording of Schubert, the composer, she said, whose work best reflects her own inner life. "Schubert has this incredible loneliness," she said. "Schubert had plenty of hopelessness, yet he can bring out happiness."

It took Uchida years, she said, to decide where to record the Schubert and even what piano to use. She finally recorded his Impromptus (Op. 90, D899, and Op. 142, D935) last September at the Musikverein in Vienna on her own 1962 Steinway.

In recent years Uchida has extended her repertory far beyond the Mozart that made her famous in 1982, when she performed a series of sonatas in London. With Schubert, the Beethoven sonatas, Berg, Webern and Schoenberg, which she played in the United States in 1995, Uchida has mastered works that require intense physical stamina and intellectual power and that have mostly attracted male virtuosos.

"Beethoven, Schubert, Schoenberg, Berg imply a type of pianist who is intellectual," said Jeffrey Tate, who conducted the English Chamber Orchestra when Uchida recorded Mozart's concertos. "That's not always associated with female soloists. Mitsuko was doomed to play this!"

Uchida's recital series this spring is a daring mix: the intense romanticism of Schumann ("Davidsbundlertanze"), the bravura of Beethoven (Sonata in C minor, Op. 111), the pristine intellectuality of Berg (Sonata, Op. 1). All in the same concert, she was asked? "Berg and Schumann are actually very close to each other," she said. "Schumann is whatever German Romanticism is. And Berg has the romantic spirit in the 20th century."

As for the Beethoven, his last sonata, "I wanted to play Beethoven," she said simply. "Beethoven is the most intense composer that ever lived. It's frightening. But if I don't feel a struggle with Beethoven, I don't like it."

Uchida was born in Japan in 1948, the daughter of Fujio Uchida, a Japanese diplomat who had been stationed in the Japanese Embassy in Berlin during World War II. At the end of the war, he was arrested and interned for three months in the United States. She was exposed to Western music through her father's European records. He also insisted that his children learn an instrument. "But in Japan, you don't show you love music," she said. "It's a sort of duty."

When Uchida was 12, her father was appointed Japan's ambassador to Austria. The move was a tremendous culture shock, "an enormously difficult time," she said.

Almost immediately, she immersed herself in the piano. She began studying with the renowned teacher Richard Hauser at the Vienna Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. It was never an easy relationship, she said. "He was a very intelligent musician — and frustrated. His technique was very limited."

Yet when she was 16 and her father was sent back to Berlin, she chose to stay in Vienna, living by herself in a youth hostel so she could continue studying with Hauser. She was 20 when she won first prize in the Beethoven Competition in Vienna, and the next year she was second at the Chopin Competition in Warsaw.

At 22, Uchida left Vienna for London. "If you are a musician, unless you can kick it off, you will be stuck in Vienna forever," she said. And she never wanted to live in Japan because "Japan has nothing to do with Western music."

In 1982, Uchida made her reputation when she played all 17 Mozart sonatas on successive Tuesdays at Wigmore Hall in London. Rarely are the sonatas played in a cycle, and Londoners flocked to the event. Then, from the fall of 1985 to the summer of 1986, she played 21 of the concertos.

Her latest recording, of the Beethoven Piano Concertos No. 3 and No. 4, was with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, conducted by Kurt Sanderling. "It was very selfish," she said of the Beethoven recording. She wanted to record with Sanderling while there was still time, she said.

"He is 85 this year. I wanted to see what happens between the two of us."

She has also been stubborn in her affection for the Second Viennese School (Schoenberg, Berg and Webern) and for modern composers. Last year she played Sir Harrison Birtwistle's piano concerto "Antiphonies," with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and Pierre Boulez in the U. S. premiere.

"I was never sure if we were together by mistake or apart by mistake," she said with a laugh. "Excuse me! It became a big mess."

When Uchida is not traveling, she lives on Portobello Road in London, in a house next door to that of her companion of nearly 20 years, Robert Cooper, a British diplomat stationed in Bonn.

She has never married, and her career "would not have been possible if I had had a child," she said. "I would have made life hell for a child. And I would have been frustrated because I would not have had time for my music."

PEOPLE

FIFTY students have signed up for the latest pop culture course at the University of Amsterdam: a 40-hour class on **Madonna**. "As a media phenomenon, she's really intriguing," **Monique Tolk**, a student, told De Telegraaf newspaper. The for-credit course examines Madonna's lyrics and voice, and ventures into her film work as well as her persona as a sex symbol, her religious beliefs and, most of all, her media presence. Students say it's Madonna's media savvy — not her music — that has drawn them to the class. Tolk, who's doing her doctorate on the singer, said she prefers **Sting**.

□

The Chinese filmmaker **Chen Kaige** has a surprise choice for the lead role in his next film — fellow director **Zhang Yimou**. Chen, who won international acclaim for "Yellow Earth" and "Farewell My Concubine," said he hoped to work out a deal by next week to snare Zhang for "Assassins." "It's a little risky," Chen said. "He's been a director for years, but he hasn't played any part recently. I just think he has a great face." Zhang has directed international hits such as "Red Sorghum," "Raise the Red Lantern," "The Story of Qiu Ju" and "To Live."

□

Christopher Reeve has completed his directorial debut, a film that will be shown on the HBO television network. Reeve, who was paralyzed from the neck down in a riding accident two years ago, directed **Glenn Close**, **Whoopi Goldberg** and **Bridget Fonda** in "In the Gloaming," about a young man who *returns home to die and revives the love* and connections in his family. The actor, who still breathes with a respirator, directed using a video monitor and a two-way microphone. "Of course, I talked very privately a lot of the time, but I *could communicate with the set at all* times and they with me," Reeve said.

□

Elizabeth Taylor is free to marry again. She's officially divorced from **Larry Fortensky**, husband No. 7 (No. 8, if you count **Richard Burton** twice). The actress's lawyer described the settlement as amicable and refused to reveal financial details, but she said reports that Fortensky was getting $1.5 million were "too high." They were married Oct. 6, 1991, in a ceremony at **Michael Jackson**'s Neverland Ranch. Taylor filed for divorce in February 1996, citing irreconcilable differences.

□

Sylvester Stallone and his companion, the model **Jennifer Flavin**, plan to marry within the next several months, *according to Stallone's publicist. They* have a 7-month-old daughter, **Sophia Rose**, who underwent surgery in November to close a hole in her heart.

□

A judge issued an arrest warrant for the father of the "Home Alone" star, **Macaulay Culkin**, for failing to show up in court to answer assault charges stemming from a brawl with a photographer last month. **Christopher (Kit) Culkin** is accused of punching a news photographer who tried to take his picture on March 4 outside his New York City apartment building. **Andy Uzzle**, the New York Post photographer who filed the police report, claimed Culkin grabbed him around the neck and punched him in the face, leaving him with blurred vision in one eye. Last week, **Patricia Brentrup**, Macaulay's mother, won custody of the actor and five of his siblings as well as control of his $17 million fortune.

□

The Everglades crusader **Marjory Stoneman Douglas** correctly predicted *that she'd live to be 107. Now her aim is* 115. Douglas rested through much of her 107th birthday, as friends gathered at a groundbreaking ceremony for an environmental-education center next to the small cottage where she's lived *since 1926. It was the second birthday* celebration in two days and a little too much activity for her, a longtime friend, **Elisabeth Lilly**, said. Douglas's 1947 book, "The Everglades: River of Grass," sounded the alarm about the perils of the ecosystem.

Dave Allocca/Reuters

Christopher Reeve with his wife and daughter at the premiere of his film.

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Spain	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
Switzerland●	0800-89-0011
United Kingdom▲	0500-89-0011
	0800-89-0011
MIDDLE EAST	
Egypt●(Cairo)◆	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
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